

Grafting Fruit Trees

Grafting Program Directions (read before registering or attending)

Grafting — Grafting is an art which will be more successful with practice. Beginners may want to graft an extra to increase the likelihood of success.

Grafting techniques vary considerably. The method being used is “low-cost,” but relatively effective procedure.

Rootstock will be provided with paid registration of the class. We will use an apple semi-dwarf rootstock.

Scion Wood—The tree being grafted to the rootstock is called the scion wood. The fruit will be determined by this “piece of wood.” The scion can be purchased from some nurseries or it can be collected. If your friend has an apple that you particularly like, see if they will allow you to collect some wood for grafting. If you do not have a source, scion wood will be provided the day of the class.

For our class: the Scion Wood needs to be:

1. Last year’s growth (the “sucker” growth which grows straight up on the inside of the tree is a great possibility)
2. About the diameter of a wooden pencil — about **1/4 to 3/8 inch in diameter & 4-6 inches in length.**
3. Collected while the tree is still dormant (before buds begin to swell).
4. Place scion in a “ziplock” type bag with a little water added, and keep in a refrigerator until the day of class.

The collected wood needs some prominent buds visible. I suggest that you collect more than needed; you may want to trade a scion with a friend. If you do not have a source, scion wood will be provided the day of the class.



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES