

The English Orchard

Extracts from

'The Common Ground Book of Orchards'

An orchard is a special and particular part of our landscape. An orchard is like a wood. It may be more orderly but fruit trees perform the same deciduous miracle of 'dying' in winter only to be born once more each spring. An orchard tells the seasons more frankly than most woods, flaunting its blossom, dropping big fruit, feeding masses of creatures as well as us, demanding attention.

Orchards constitute places of tranquillity, places where one can find continuity with the landscape. Orchards capture people's imagination as a marriage of the cool serenity of woodlands with the ordered abundance of gardens, alive with the buzz and hum of many creatures.

Sadly in the UK we have been losing our orchards at an alarming rate. Over the last 30 years two-thirds of orchards were grubbed up, some 100,000 acres. This decline continues due to imported fruit, the intensification of agriculture and the pressures from land development.

**Help us preserve
Dragon Orchard for the future**

TREE VARIETIES PLANTED

Apple Trees:

- Ashmead's Kernel
- D'Arcy Spice
- Downton Pippin
- Edward VII
- Herefordshire Russet
- Jumbo
- Jupiter
- Kidd's Orange Red
- Meridian
- Pitmaston Pineapple
- Princesse
- Red Devil
- Red Windsor
- Ribston Pippin
- Scrumptious
- Spartan
- Tydemans Late Orange
- William Crump
- Winston

Greengage Trees:

- Dennistons Superb
- Early Transparent
- Old Greengage
- Oullins Golden

Plum Trees:

- Mirabelle Golden Sphere
- Mirabelle Gypsy

Pear Trees:

- Beurre Superfin
- Doyenne du Comice
- Onward
- Winter Nelis

Quince Trees:

- Meeches Prolific
- Vranja

Dragon Orchard



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Sponsor a Tree

***“Even if I knew that tomorrow
the world would go to pieces,
I would still plant my apple tree”
Dr Martin Luther King***

Dragon Orchard is a small traditional fruit farm that has been tended by the same family for over 70 years. The 22 acre orchard is set in the south eastern corner of the rolling Herefordshire countryside, near Ledbury and close to the Malvern Hills. It is part of the rich tapestry of a farming area famous for its cattle, hops and apples. A fine blend of soils, moisture and culture combine to produce some of the best orchard crops available, grown in an idyllic setting.

In September 2001, Norman and Ann Stanier launched the innovative orchard scheme Dragon Orchard Cropsharers, offering people the opportunity to be part of the life of the fruit farm and enjoy weekends in the country and orchard produce at harvest time. It has been a highly enjoyable and successful venture which has made the orchard sustainable and given much pleasure to those involved.

Due to the success of the project we have now replanted an area of orchard which had to be cleared five years ago. Our intention has been to plant an interesting amenity orchard of diverse varieties of fruit trees with the help and guidance of a local nurseryman and an ecological landscape design team. The area includes a place to sit, contemplate and appreciate the environment.

The planting took place in February 2005. It has been a delight to be able to take this positive and beneficial step in the life of the fruit farm. We are now looking for people willing to support the future of the orchard by sponsoring the new trees.

You can Sponsor A Tree as a gift to celebrate a memorable event, a birthday or an anniversary, or to commemorate a loved one ... or just because you love fruit trees and orchards.

Your Tree Sponsorship of £50 will cover:

- Planting, staking and rabbit-proofing a fruit tree.
- An annotated orchard plan with your tree marked.
- The opportunity to visit Dragon Orchard on an annual Spring Open Day for the next five years.
- An information pack with details of the varieties planted.
- Twice yearly newsletter to keep you in touch with what is happening in the orchard.



Name:

Address:

.....

..... Postcode:

Tel:

Email:

If this is a gift tree please give person's name:

.....

If this is a commemorative tree please give person's name:

.....

Please send the completed form and your cheque for £50 payable to Dragon Orchard, to:

*Dragon Orchard, Putley, Ledbury,
Herefordshire. HR8 2RG*

Tel: 01531 670071

Fax: 01531 670811

*Or email us at: info@dragonorchard.co.uk
www.dragonorchard.co.uk*

