



Red Tomato's Eco Programs



Where Old Fashioned Know-How Meets Cutting Edge Science

Eco Apple[™] & Eco Peach[™] Certified Sustainably Grown Northeast Apples & Stone Fruit

Eco Fruit is at the forefront of sustainable locally grown.

- Eco certified farmers use sustainable farming practices such as Integrated Pest Management (IPM) to create thriving eco systems for pollinators and other beneficial insects, healthy soils, and clean air and water.
- Our growers rely on the most natural pest control methods like biological controls, trapping, and beneficial predators, along with extensive monitoring of trees, pests and environmental conditions.
- All chemical pest control methods are a last resort and used only after systematic scouting and weather monitoring to indicate when pests exceed acceptable thresholds.
- Eco Fruit orchards are certified annually by the IPM Institute of North America. The Eco Apple protocol is rigorously reviewed annually by scientists and fruit growers.

Trust the farmer. Know the farm. Love the fruit.

- Eco Fruit growers are among the most experienced and dedicated producers in the Northeast. Exceptional flavor is their expertise.
- Eco-certified orchards are family farms. Many have been in the same family for many generations and are managed on behalf of generations to come.

Healthy soils, air and water make for healthy fruit.

- Every treatment allowed in our protocol is screened annually for potential impact on human health, pollinators and wildlife, as well as water, soil and air quality.
- Due to significant human health concerns, particularly in children, certified Eco Apple fruit has been grown without organophosphates since 2010.

Eco farmers brake for bees.

- Bees and other pollinators are absolutely essential for fruit production. Eco farmers go out of their way to protect their buzzing colleagues.
- Pollinator Protection is part of every Eco growing protocol, and has been since the program began.
 With increased attention to colony collapse disorder and the potential impact of certain pesticides and fungicides on bee health, Red Tomato is following new research closely. The protocol is revised annually to ensure the safest practices.

Please visit <u>www.redtomato.org/eco</u> to download our growing protocols, or for more information.