

Ornamental apple 'Karlens'

A columnar apple cultivar with red flowers, leaves and fruits. Recommended for planting as ornamental.

Obtained at Institute of Horticulture, Latvia, in 1997 from a cross 'Top Millionaire' x D-1-94-2 ('Arbat' x 'Forele'). Cultivar application: in 2016 (LV Nr.16003). Breeder's rights: Institute of Horticulture, Latvia.

Tree: columnar, sturdy, branches none or very few. Vigour is medium.

Leaves: large, glossy, with deep serrate margins. Colour in spring dark red, in summer dark greenish red, in autumn bright bronze.

Flowering: late, flowers large, purple, fading weak. Flowering intensity medium, tends to be biennial.

Fruits: small (30g), dark red, with red flesh, slightly astringent – contain tannins. Ripening is medium to late. Can be used for preserves.

Tolerance to diseases: good to mildew, good to medium to scab.

Winter-hardiness: good. Can replace 'Maypole', which is not hardy enough in Latvia.

Recommended rootstocks: medium vigour rootstocks MM106, B.118. To obtain perfect plants, staking in nursery is obligatory, and tree tops should not be pruned.