## APPLES

Our Nebraska Harvest of the Month item is apples! Apples in Nebraska are harvested from August to November, and if properly refrigerated, they can store for as long as 4 months! Some varieties are a hit when crunched into raw and others best baked with spices. Try adding thinly sliced apples to a sandwich, or add diced apples to a fresh salad.

## Seliction, STORAGE \& COOKING

 - Stored properly, apples can last for months. Keep at about 32 degrees, $90 \%$ humidity, and in the dark.- Apples release a natural gas called ethylene that triggers other fruits like bananas, avocados and peaches to ripen. To prevent rapid ripening, apples are best stored separately from other fruit.


## NUTRIITONAL IIP

Apples are a great source of fiber, vitamin C and potassium. Most antioxidants and fiber are found in the skin of an apple.

## SEASONAL AVAIIABIILTY




Ingredients:

- 2 cups diced apples
- 1/2 cup diced red bell pepper
- 1/3 cup fresh lime juice
- 1/4 cup diced red onion
- $1 / 4$ cup minced fresh cilantro
- 1 TBL honey
- $1 / 4$ tsp salt
- $1 / 4$ tsp freshly ground black pepper
- 1 jalapeño pepper, seeded and minced


## Directions:

Combine all ingredients in a bowl, and let stand for at least 30 minutes. Use this as a condiment on your favorite taco recipe, or serve alongside pork, chicken or rice dishes.

From: www.myrecipes.com/recipe/ fresh-apple-salsa



## CONDUCT AN AT HOME APPLE TASTE TEST!

Grab two or more different types of apples and conduct an at home taste test!

1. Talk as a group about what senses you will use during this taste test (smell, sight, feeling, taste) and come up with a list of descriptors or adjectives to potentially describe the apples. An example list could be:

| TART | LIGHT | SWEET | GRAiny |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| CRUNCHY | FRAGRANT | JuICY | DRY |
| ACIDIC | DELICATE | THICK-SkinNED | Yellow |

2. Cut apples into slices and put one variety per plate. Write the variety of apple on a piece of tape or paper and keep with the plate.
3. Have everyone in your group sample a slice and share what tastes, smells, sights, and feelings they are experiencing. Have a note taker write down everyone's responses on a sheet of paper.
4. Repeat for as many varieties as you have.
5. After you've tasted all varieties, go back and vote on your favorite.

## APPLE TRIVIA

Have you ever bobbed for apples? Apples float because they are less dense than water, in fact air makes up about $\qquad$ of an apple's volume.

A. $0 \%$
B. $25 \%$
C. $50 \%$
D. $75 \%$

## APPLE TRIVIA

Don't toss the $\qquad$ ! Much of the fiber and antioxidants in apples are found in the $\qquad$ of the apple, so the next time you eat one, eat it $\qquad$ and all!
A. Seeds
B. Stem
C. Peel


