

# Nic<sup>®</sup> 29

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- Propagation:** Propagated by layer beds
- Chilling:** Medium chill apple rootstock
- Size controlling:** Very size controlling with a tree size approximately 25% - 40% that of the seedling rootstock
- Soil type:** Ideally suited to all but the lower half of the variable soil potentials and growing conditions found in the Western and Eastern Cape. Please take advice from your soil scientist and horticulturalist.
- Vigour:** It is one of the more vigorous M9 rootstocks
- Architecture:** Like all M9's it needs a support structure. The anchoring roots are poor, but the feeder roots are very good.
- Adaptability:** Compared to other M9's it appears to be better adapted to harsher drier conditions. The good market share in the Pacific Northwest (Washington and Oregon states in Western United States) that has endured for decades is evidence of this.
- M9's are stress susceptible and especially heat will slow growth. Choose cooler slopes and make sure the mulching is done very well. This is manageable.
- Production:**
- \* Yield efficiency is significantly higher than the more vigorous rootstocks.
  - \* With appropriate planting distance high and precocious (early into bearing) yields can be achieved.
  - \* Fruit size is typically larger with a lower spread of fruit sizes than the more vigorous rootstocks.
  - \* Side branches tend to be less upright (variety dependent)