

# PEARS



- ◆ Pears are a member of the Rose family.
- ◆ 95% of the pears sold in the United States are grown in Washington, Oregon and Northern California.
- ◆ There are over 3000 varieties of pears grown around the world.
- ◆ Pears are a good source of vitamin C , potassium, and fiber and ripen better off the tree from the inside out.
- ◆ Pears are native to Asia and Europe. The first pear tree was planted in North America in 1620 in the Massachusetts Bay colony.
- ◆ The pear was sacred to two goddesses in Greek mythology - Hera and Aphrodite. It was also sacred to the corresponding Roman goddesses, Juno and Venus, as well as to Pomona, the Roman goddess of fruitfulness.
- ◆ Towns with an abundance of pear trees often included the word Perry in the name of the town.