# The Apple

The apple is an apple tree, belonging to the species Malus domestica in the rose family, known as Rosaceae. It is one of the most widely cultivated fruit trees. The apple tree is small to medium-sized, ranging in height from 3 to 12 meters, with a broad and dense crown of thorns. The leaves of the apple tree are arranged alternately in a simple ovate shape, measuring 5 to 12 cm in length, and 3-6 cm in width on stalks that are 2 to 5 cm long with a pointed tip, serrated margin, and a smooth underside. Blooming occurs in the spring at the same time as the emergence of the leaves, and the tree's flowers are white with a pink hue that gradually fades, with five petals, and a diameter of 2.5 to 3.5 cm. The fruit ripens in the autumn, and its diameter is usually between 5 and 9 cm. The core of the fruit contains five carpels arranged in a five-pointed star shape, with each carpel containing one to three seeds.

The origin of the tree began in Central Asia, where we still find its wild ancestor to this day. There are over 7,500 known cultivars of apples, which has led to apples having a range of desirable characteristics. The cultivars differ in the size of their crops and the final size of the tree, even when the tree is grown on the same root.

At least 55 million tons of apples were grown worldwide in 2005, with a value of around $10 billion. China produced around 35% of this total.[3] The United States is the second largest producer, accounting for more than 7.5% of global production. Turkey, France, Italy, and Iran are also among the leading apple-exporting countries.