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Apricot Frost Damage Chart

Critical spring temperatures by bud stage, from Michigan State University Extension's compilation of the WSU and MSU bulletins.

The temperature that kills 10% and 90% of apricot buds after 30 minutes, by bud stage. Buds grow more tender as they open, so the same frost does more harm later in spring.

Bud stage	10% killed	90% killed	Between 90% and 10% killed	Date reached this year
Bud swell	15°F (−9°C)	—		
Bud burst	20°F (−7°C)	0°F (−18°C)		
Red tip	22°F (−6°C)	9°F (−13°C)		
First white	24°F (−4°C)	14°F (−10°C)		
First bloom	25°F (−4°C)	19°F (−7°C)		
Full bloom	27°F (−3°C)	22°F (−6°C)		
In the shuck	27°F (−3°C)	24°F (−4°C)		
Green fruit	28°F (−2°C)	25°F (−4°C)		



Reading the chart. At the 10% figure about one bud in ten is killed after 30 minutes of cold; at the 90% figure, about nine in ten. A blank cell (—) means the published table gives no figure for that stage. °C figures are conversions, rounded.

Cold-night log

Date	Low (°F)	Bud stage	What you saw afterwards

Source: Michigan State University Extension compilation of the WSU and MSU critical-temperature bulletins

Data as of 15 Nov 2026