

Early Duchess (TH1334)

An exceptionally large, low chill blueberry



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EARLY DUCHESS BENEFITS

- **Very large attractive fruit - 22 – 25mm**
- **Low-chill variety requiring approximately 100 hours of chill units. Early ripening variety**
- **Firm fruit with a good shelf life**

The fruit -

Early Duchess low chill blueberry requires approximately 100 hours of chill units. The vigorous plant produces extremely large berries consistently over the harvest window. These deep blue coloured blueberries have a small dry scar and are flat/round in shape.

Early Duchess is easy and cheap to harvest and the fruit is extremely well displayed on the plant.

Background -

Early Duchess was a stand out variety when trialled in South Georgia, USA where it was bred at the University of Georgia by Dr. Scott NeSmith. Early Duchess is one of the most attractive blueberry varieties in the market. It has very large fruit and is consistent in size, looking outstanding when picked and in the punnet. This extremely low chill blueberry variety produces dark blueberries with a great bloom and a small dry scar. It consistently looked good in trials and more recently in production. Early Duchess is guaranteed to find its position in the category where extremely large blueberry fruits are desired.





EARLY DUCHESS IN ACTION



[Click to play video](#)

EARLY DUCHESS OVERVIEW

Firmness

Early Duchess is a firm berry and travels exceptionally well

Chilling

Low chill southern highbush blueberry variety requiring approximately 100 hours of chill units

Fruit Size

Extremely large berries starting at 25 mm in diameter but are consistently large throughout the harvest. The berry has a small dry scar, is easy and cheap to pick

Fruit Colour

Medium to dark blue in colour with a very good, attractive bloom

Flavour

Crisp and sweet with a good Brix and average acidity

Yield

High yielding
20 - 25 tonnes per hectare

Agronomy

Vigorous plant and quick to establish showing no signs Botryosphaeria



EARLY DUCHESS OVERVIEW

Market

- Early Duchess is a very early, low chill southern highbush blueberry variety producing premium size blueberries with exceptional eye appeal
- The fruit is rapid to harvest with firm fruit and ships well internationally

Offer

- Early Duchess is one of the largest premium sized blueberry varieties in the market
- Early Duchess is licensed for trials and commercialization in a number of key blueberry growing areas internationally - for a list of current licence holders see final pages
- For all other Early Duchess licencing enquiries please contact Rupert rupert@globalplantgenetics.com - see last page





EVALUATION RESULTS

	Chill Hours	Berry Size	Berry Scar	Berry Colour	Berry Firmness	Berry Flavour	Plant Vigour
Early Duchess	<< 100	9.3	7.5	7	8	7.5	8.5
Star	400	7	7	7.5	7.2	7.2	7.5
Suziblue	300	7.5	7	7	7.5	7.5	6.5
Blue Duchess	250-350	8.5	8	7	8	7.5	9.5
Sweet Duchess	<< 100	8.5	7.5	7	8	8	6.2



EARLY DUCHESS REVIEWS



"Early Duchess is an early flowering and early ripening variety that needs very little chill to flower and fruit. Early Duchess blueberry has a spreading growth habit and needs more training as a young plant to build a structure for future laterals. It is a semi-moderate grower and needs less interventions to create a base of new bearing units. The fruit is large and flat with a dark appearance and little bloom. The fruit is sweet, eats very well and has a good storage ability. "

Pieter Zietsman. Top Fruit, South Africa

"The size of Early Duchess is as large as any blueberry in the market. Sweet berries with a great flavour profile and good shelf life are just some of the attributes to make this a leading blueberry variety for the future. Early Duchess is hugely welcomed by our European clients."

Stefan Belakov, Plants365 Ltd. Europe

LICENCE HOLDERS

Early Duchess blueberry can be purchased from the following licensees, according to territory:



Mexico, Guatemala

jim@freshresults.com



China

fresh@perfection.com.au



EU, Morocco, Azerbaijan,
Georgia, Kazakhstan

stefan@plants365.co.uk



TopFruit

South Africa

pieterz@topfruit.co.za



GPG

If you are located in other territories and are interested in the Early Duchess blueberry, please make contact with us for more information



GPG Blueberries



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CONTACT US



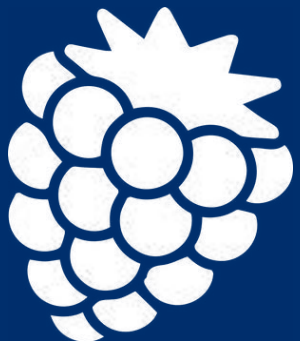
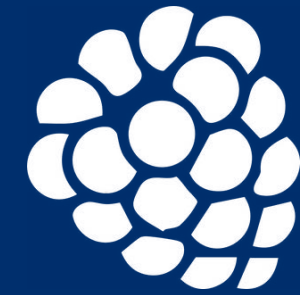
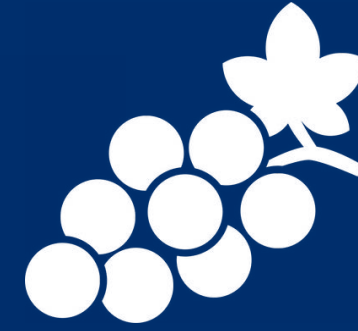
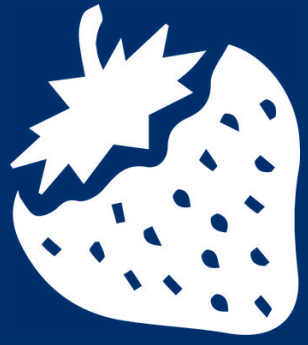
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