

Harvest Windows for Plums/Prunes in Michigan - Michigan State University Extension

Table 1. Gage-Type Plums

Variety	Ripe order*	Skin	Flesh color	Pollenizer	Comments
Oullins Gage	-25	yellow	yellow	self-fertile	productive, moderately aromatic, blooms later than most Gage plums, brown rot prone, good tasting, multiple harvests
Rosy Gage (NY101)	-22	green yellow with some pink blush		self unfruitful, Vanette, Reine Claude Conducta, Oullins, Polly and Demontfort	prone to black knot and brown rot, very productive
Reine Claude Conducta	-12	pink / purple	amber	Stanley	crisp, very sweet, high quality
Green Gage (Reine Claude)	-5	green		partially self fertile, Oullins Gage	aromatic, very flavorful, 500 hr chill

* Ripe order is days (- = before or + = after) relative to Stanley

Table 2. Mirabelle-Type Plums

Variety	Ripe order*	Skin	Flesh color	Pollenizer	Comments
American Mirabelle	-10	golden with pink blush		French Damson, Castleton	jam, wine/brandy
Herrenhausen		maroon / purple	green amber	self-incompatible, French Damson, Castleton	
Geneva Mirabelle (NY 858)	-5			French Damson, Castleton	Cornell test selection
Mirabelle de Metz					for brandy

* Ripe order is days (- = before or + = after) relative to Stanley

Table 3. Damson-types

Variety	Ripe order*	Skin	Flesh color	Pollenizer	Comments
NY5041					small productive, processing
French Damson		dark purple			processing, strong flavor, astringent
Shropshire		purple			
Blue Damson				self-fertile	800 hr chill, old variety

* Ripe order is days (- = before or + = after) relative to Stanley

Table 4. Established, promising and possible new yellow skinned Japanese-type plum varieties for Michigan fresh market.

Variety & ripe order	Ripe order*	Skin color	flesh color	Pollenizer	Comments
Ohishi Washi		red blush on golden	light yellow		bland, soft, requires peach site
Early Golden	-50	yellow	yellow	Burbank, Ozark Premier, Shiro, Vanier, Vampire	round, freestone, hardy, productive, softens quickly, bland, biannual if overcropped
Obilinaya	-47	purple red	red, gold around pit		good fruit size for season, hardy, productive,
Shiro	-37	green yellow, pink blush	yellow	Burbank, Methley, Vanier	500 hr chill, mild, moderately sweet, medium quality, relatively hardy, prone to bruising
Yellow Egg	0	yellow	yellow		

* Ripe order is days (- = before or + = after) relative to Stanley

Table 5. Established, promising and possible new red skinned Japanese-type plum varieties for Michigan fresh market.

Season	Harvest order	Skin color	Flesh color	Pollenizer	Comments
Early Magic	-46	Red / blue	amber-yellow	Early Golden, Ozark Premier & Fortune	tree may be winter tender like other Santa Rosas, multiple picks, medium fruit size, firm, juicy, sweet
Ozark Premier	-20	Purple / blue	yellow	Vanier	round fruit large, aromatic & good flavor if thinned, ripens unevenly
Burbank	-17	Orange red	yellow	self-incompatible, Vanier	good flavor, hardy, productive, good pollen source, aromatic, medium size, clingstone, juicy, ripens unevenly, multiple pick
Red Giant		red with waxy bloom	yellow		large, firm, juicy, small pit, very sweet with some acid, upright tree
Vanier	-17	bright red on golden back	yellow	Burbank, Ozark Premier, Vampire	mod productive, firm, good quality, quality improves in storage, vigorous tree, multi-pick, some drop
Vampire (V82053)	late mid	Red / green	red	Shiro, Ozark Premier, Burbank, Vanier	juicy, medium large, good cold tolerance for red fleshed type
Redheart	-14	Dark purple red	dark red	Elephant Heart, Burbank	500 hr chill, large, firm, sweet, juicy, small pit
Ruby Sweet		Red	dark red flesh		good quality, from Byron, GA, good bacterial spot resistance, semi-freestone
Luisa	-14	Red / yellow	yellow		very large, multi-pick, pointed, irregular shape
Rubyqueen	-14	dark red / black	dark red		medium large, firm flesh, excellent flavor, maybe cold-tender tree, limited experience
Fortune	-10	red on yellow back	yellow	Burbank, Friar	large fruit, small pit, semi-cling, vigorous tree, 500 chill hr, stores well, good bact spot resistance, some years poor set, put on peach sites
Satsuma	-5	mottled red on green	dark red	Santa Rosa	300 hr chill, dense flesh, mild, sweet
Improved Duarte	-5	dark red	dark red		large, heart-shaped, multi-pick, very good quality
Simka	+0	purple	yellow	self-fruitful	variable yield, large, heart shaped, good flavor, firm, some drop, upright growth, freestone when mature
Caroline Harris	+0	maroon purple	red		large fruit, excellent quality, tree short lived, small pit, juicy
Elephant Heart	+5	dark red purple	red	Beauty, Santa Rosa	500 hr chill, sweet, firm
Alderman	+20	Orange red	orange yellow	self-fruitful but does better with Toka and South Dakota	medium size, attractive, firm skin, waxy, medium to large, appears to be winter hardy

Table 6. Established, promising and possible new blue/purple skinned Japanese-type plum varieties for Michigan fresh market.

Season	Ripe order	Skin color	Flesh color	Pollenizer	Comments
Methley	-43	purple	red flesh		bitter skin
Black Ice (Lydecker)		dark purple		Toka, La Crescent	hardy, hybrid, medium size, early evaluation
Angeleno	+19	dark purple	amber yellow		moderately vigorous tree, open structure, medium to large roundish fruit, firm, smooth textured, juicy, sweet, excellent taste, small pit, semi to freestone

* Ripe order is days (- = before or + = after) relative to Stanley

Table 7. European plum varieties for Michigan fresh market.

Variety	Ripe order	Skin color	Flesh color	Pollenizer	Comments
Ruth Gerstatter	-55				
Ersinger	-40	blue			medium firm, productive, retains good flavor
Earliblue		blue	amber		resembles Stanley but rounder and softer, has good flavor, late blooming, moderate crops
V63015	-40	blue	amber		not released as variety, some limited production in Michigan, medium size & medium hardness
California Blue	-34	blue			large fruit, drop tendency, irregular shape, somewhat tart, okay flavor, nearly freestone, ripens with Shiro
DeMonfort		reddish-maroon with irreg line marking	green yellow		medium sized, very productive, very sweet, juicy, rich-flavored, small pit, multiple pick
Vibrant (V70034)	-35	blue	amber	Valerie, Vanette, Stanley, Valor, Victory, Italian, Vision	productive, decent size and quality for early plum, decent to good firmness, sweet, medium acid, semi-freestone
Valerie (V70031)	-28	violet blue	amber	Vanette, Valor, Vibrant, Violette, Stanley, Victory, Italian, Vision	firm enough to ship, med to large,

Variety	Ripe order	Skin color	Flesh color	Pollenizer	Comments
Vanette (V66071)	-28	purple		Stanley, Valor, Vibrant, Violette, Victory	very productive, medium size, freestone, good quality, ovate, dual purpose
Voyageur	-25			self-compatible	waxy, consistent bearer, drop tendency, softens somewhat quickly, good eating
NY 81PF					
Castleton	-12	dark purple		self-fertile	productive, uniform size, excellent flavor, medium vigor, colors before mature, may require thinning
NY6 (Jayfre)	-12				rel large, prductive, mild, medium fresh quality
NY7	-8				
Violette (V72511)	-8	dark blue	yellow green	Valerie, Vanette, Stanley, Valor, Victory, Italian, Vision	large oblong fruit, semi-freestone
Early Italian (Early Fellenberg)	-7			Voyageur	excellent quality, firm enough to ship, medium productive
Seneca	-7	maroon / purple			large, excellent flavor
Veeblue	-7				
Bluebyrd	-5	dark blue	amber	Stanley, President and BlueFre	thick skin, productive, needs thinning, not quite Stanley size
Stanley	+0	dark blue	yellow green	self fertile, Vibrant, Violette	800 chill, sweet / tart when ripe, softens quickly, productive, hardy, med to large, distinct neck, tends to overproduce
Polly	+0	purple red	orange-green	self-fruitful	large fruit, kidney-shaped, mild flavor, medium quality, medium firm
Cacak's Best	+0	blue	pale yellow		medium large, need to hang for complete ripeness
Brooks	+0				favorite in Oregon
Valor	+1	violet blue		Valerie, Vanette, Vibrant, Violette, Stanley, Italian	semi-freestone, medium to large, good flavor, more productive than Italian
NY9	+2	dark blue	amber		vigorous tree, upright habit, productive, good fruit size if crop load not too high, mild, sweet, good firmness, good dual purpose plum
Bluefre (Shropshire)	+2			self fruitful	prolific, small to medium fruit, distinct flavor,
Longjohn	+3	dark blue	orange		very large, high quality, productive, oblong fruit

Variety	Ripe order	Skin color	Flesh color	Pollenizer	Comments
Victory	+4	dark blue	green yellow	Valerie, Vanette, Vibrant, Violette, Stanley, Valor, Italian, Vision	heart shaped, productive, semi-freestone, firm, good quality
Italian (Fellenberg)	+7	purple		self fertile, Valerie, Vanette, Vibrant, Violette	less productive, medium to large, 800 hr chill, sweet, late bloom, good keeping, dual purpose, ships well
Verity	+9				
NY 202	+9				
Vison	+13	dark blue		Vibrant, Violette, Stanley, Valor, Victory	large, medium tart, very sweet, productive, excellent quality, good shelf life
Empress	+13	dark blue	greenish yellow	Stanley, Victory, President	large, elliptical, symmetric, very good quality, firm, semi-cling, good shipping
President	+21	purple with heavy wax	orange	Empress, Italian, Vision	large, elliptical, semi-cling

* Ripe order is days (- = before or + = after) relative to Stanley

Table 8. Established, promising and possible new Japanese-type plum varieties for Michigan fresh market.

Season	Established	Promising	Maybe
July 1 to 15	Early Golden -50 Methley -43 Shiro -37	Early Magic -46	NY 1502 BY8010-114 -65
July 15 to Aug. 15	Ozark Premier -20 Burbank -17 Redheart -14		Vanier -17
Aug 15 to Sept 1	Satsuma -5		Fortune -10 Improved Duarte -5
Sept 1 to Sept 15	Simka +0 Elephant Heart +5		Caroline Harris 0
Sept. 15 to Sept 30		Alderman+20	
No date			Red Giant Twilite Rubysweet

Table 9. Established, promising and possible new European-type plum varieties for Michigan fresh market.

Season	Established	Promising	Maybe
Early July	Ruth Gerstatter -55 German Prune Ersinger -40		
Late July	De Monfort	PP 6975-2	
Early August	NY 81PF Voyageur -25	Vibrant (V70034) -35 Valerie -28 Vanette -28	
Mid August	Castleton -12 Early Fellenberg -7 Early Italian -7		
Late August	Seneca -7 Veeblue -7	NY6 -12 Bluebyrd -5	NY7 -8
Early Sept.	Stanley +0	NY9 +2 Longjohn +3 French Hybrid	Cacak's Best +0 J.G. 501 Polly +0 Valor +1
Mid Sept. to Oct.	Blufre +2 Victory +4 Italian +7 Empress +13	Verity +9 Vision +13	NY202 +9 Violette (V72511) +15

sources:

Plum Variety Picks for New York. Robert L. Andersen and Jay Freer. NY Fruit Quarterly.

New York Plum Picks for 2006: Recommended Plum Cultivars, R. L. Andersen, J. Freer, and C. Weber. NY Fruit Quarterly, Volume 14.

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