

SMALL FRUIT VARIETY GUIDE



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CURRENT

RED LAKE - Large, bright red berries. Vigorous and very productive. Possibly the best cultivar for the Upper Midwest. Fruits are good for jams and jellies.

GOOSEBERRY

PIXWELL - Pale green, medium sized fruit, turns pink when ripe. Long fruit clusters for easy picking. Hardy with few thorns.

BLUEBERRY

NORTHBLUE - 1983 University of Minnesota introduction. 20"-30" tall. 3-9 pounds of fruit per bush. Dark blue, large, firm berries. Self-fruitful. Good for the home gardener. Prefers an acidic soil with a pH of 4.5 - 5.5. Sweet/tart flavor.

CHIPPEWA - 1996 University of Minnesota introduction. 30"-40" tall. Large, dark blue fruits. Also a good blueberry for the home gardener. Yield is similar to that of Northblue. Fruits are sweeter. Ripens one week earlier than Northblue. Self-fruitful. Prefers an acidic soil with a pH of 4.5 - 5.5.

NORTHCOUNTRY - 1986 University of Minnesota introduction. 18"-24" tall. 2-7 pounds of fruit per bush. Sky blue, sweet berries. Smaller fruit than Northblue, being about 1/2" in diameter. Matures one week earlier than Northblue, in late July. Partially self-fruitful.

GRAPES

SWENSON RED - 1980 Wisconsin introduction. Red. High sugar content. Good for storage. Large, round grapes. Hardy to -30 degrees. Needs full sun and frost protection. Prune in spring and fall. Matures early in September.

BETA - A cross between a Concord grape and a wild grape. Fruits are blue-black and very flavorful. Makes wonderful jelly. Very hardy. Prefers full sun and moist, well-drained soils. Self-fertile.

EDELWEISS - A 1980 Wisconsin introduction. Greenish white, medium sized fruits. High sugar content. Good for desserts and wine making. Matures in late August. Hardy to -30 degrees. Needs full sun and frost protection.

BLUE BELL - Medium to large, blue-black fruits with tender skins. Makes great preserves. Will tolerate a variety of soil types, but needs good drainage. Protect from frost. Prune in spring and fall.

RHUBARB

CANADA RED - Exceptionally sweet. Bright red stems with color all the way through. Holds its color well through cooking.

STRAWBERRY

HONEOYE - June bearing. Honeoye produces incredible yields. Fruits are large, firm, and a beautiful red color all the way through. Great for pies. Very winter hardy. As the season progresses Honeoye holds its size better than other varieties. Make sure the soil drains well to get the most out of these strawberries. Planting in lighter soils will produce the best flavor and aid in prevention of disease. Raised beds also help this variety with disease prevention, although this is generally a disease resistant variety.

CAVENDISH - June bearing. Cavendish produces high yields and has good resistance to red stele, a fungal disease which is problematic for strawberries. Exceptional winter hardiness. Berries are quite large and excellent for all uses. A new variety you may want to try in your plantings.

EARLIGLOW - June-bearing. Earliglow is the earliest producer. Medium-sized berries are considered by many to be among the best flavored strawberries. As the season goes on the berries produced will be smaller, but the flavor will stay consistent. A favorite in the Midwest.

MESABI - June bearing. Mesabi is a recently released variety for Northern gardeners. Red all the way through, the berries are large and firm with terrific flavor. Very winter hardy. Plants show great resistance to disease and root rot. Try adding this new variety to your strawberry patch.

TRIBUTE - Tribute produces fruits that are firm and of medium to large size. It is one of the more popular day neutral varieties. A reliable fruit producer. It is resistant to red stele (a fungal disease that is problematic for strawberries) and verticillium wilt. The first year after planting, Tribute will produce the most in the late summer to early fall. In subsequent years, the heaviest crop will be in the spring. Plant with Tristar to have a continuous harvest of strawberries.

TRISTAR - Tristar is an early producer of small to medium sized berries. Very flavorful fruits are great for desserts. Greatest yields in the spring. Fall peak is a bit earlier than Tribute. Plant with Tribute to have a continuous harvest of strawberries. Another variety resistant to red stele and verticillium wilt. Works well in hanging baskets or patio containers.

RASPBERRIES

AUTUMN BRITTEN - A fall bearing variety. Large, dark red fruits. Flavorful and firm. Great for eating fresh, pies, sauces, and freezing.

CAROLINE - Produces large, red, flavorful, and firm fruits. Has a rather long harvest time. Plant in well drained soils. A very adaptable, fall bearing variety.

SOURIS - A heavy producer of flavorful fruits. Perfect for eating, preserves, and baking. A cross from the Morden Research Station in Canada, this a very hardy variety. Provide moist, well-drained soil and full sun.

