

Sweet Duchess (TH-1321)



- Blueberry type:** Southern Highbush
- Key attributes:** Sweet Duchess has been exclusively released to TopFruit as a commercial selection. This very low chill early ripening variety has very large, firm, flavorful berries with good production potential.
- Chilling Required:** Low chill (-100h < 7.2C)
- Flowering:** Flower bud break May.
PDF = 80 Days Flowers two weeks before Star.
- Pollinator:** SH variety with similar flowering time.
- Harvest:** Early season production: from August to September and has a compact harvesting season. Ripens before Star.
- Plant Vigour:** Upright with good vigorous growth.
- Yield:** Good (20 - 25 ton/ha).
- Berry size:** Large size fruit (1.8–2.2g/berry), ranging between 14-25mm.
- Fruit shape:** Round
- Colour:** Medium blue to light blue
- Bloom:** Moderate bloom; dark blue
- Picking Scar:** Small dry scar

Blueberries





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Firmness: Very firm with good shelf life, much firmer than Star.

Flavour: Crisp & sweet with good brix, average acidity, very good eating with outstanding flavour.

Disease: Little rust has been observed. No Botryosphaeria spp.

Licensed Countries: Zimbabwe, Zambia, Namibia, Botswana, Swaziland, Lesotho, Mozambique, Angola, Tanzania, Kenya, Malawi, South Africa, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi.

Evaluation Results

Comparative Results

Selection	Chill	Berry	Berry	Berry	Berry	Berry	Plant
	Hours	Size	Scar	Color	Firmness	Flavor	Vigour
Sweet Duchess	<<100	8.5	7	7	8.8	8.8	8
Star	400	7	7	7.5	7.2	7.2	7.5
Suzi Blue	300	7.5	7	7	7.5	6.8	6.2

Blueberries

