

Fire, Royal and Golden Zest Peaches

The Zest peach series is being released by Texas A&M University to provide firm, attractive, yellow-fleshed, high quality peaches for the medium chill zone. These six peach cultivars would supply peaches over 6 weeks from early May until late July in the medium chill zone of Texas and similar regions.

Productivity: These peach cultivars have cropped consistently in the region where ‘TexRoyal’, ‘JuneGold’ and ‘Harvester’ are grown commercially.

Size: Medium to large depending on the number of fruit left on the tree.

Quality: Traditional tart sweet flavor. Excellent.

Flesh: Firm yellow flesh.

Ripening season: Ripen consecutively from early May to late June in the medium chill zone of Texas.

Chilling requirement: Based on the relative bloom times of standard cultivars, these new peaches need between 500 and 600 chilling units (CU). The latest blooming releases ‘Royal Zest One’, ‘Royal Zest Four’, and ‘Golden Zest’ require 600 chilling hours, whereas ‘Fire Zest One’ and ‘Royal Zest Three’ require 550 chilling hours and ‘Royal Zest Two’ requires about 500 chilling hours to break dormancy.

Availability: Budwood available under license for budding.

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Fire Zest One - Early to Mid May



Royal Zest One

Mid to Late May

Royal Zest Two

Early June



Royal Zest Three – Early to Mid June



Royal Zest Four – Mid to Late June



Golden Zest – Late June