

Texas Stone Fruit Testing Program 2019

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The Texas A&M University Stone Fruit Breeding and Genetics program has recently released several series of medium to low chill peach and nectarine cultivars. These include the following series:

1. Zest peach series, this includes *Fire Zest One*, the *Royal Zest peach series* (4 cultivars) and *Golden Zest*. These medium-chill peaches have a traditional tart sweet flavor. *Fire Zest One* ripens in early May whereas the *Royal Zest series* ripens from late May until late June. The *Golden Zest* peach is a yellow peach with a slight red blush.
2. White Zest One. This is a medium-chill white-fleshed peach with a traditional tart sweet flavor. This productive peach ripens in early June.
3. White Delight peach series. These four white-fleshed peaches are reminiscent of Georgia Belle but with better appearance, firmness, and adapted to our Texas environment. These subacid peaches have a wonderful sweet peach flavor and ripen from late May until late June or early July.
4. Royal Delight peach series to be released. This is a series of delightfully sweet yellow-fleshed peaches with a chilling requirement ranging from 200 to 550 chill hours and ripening from early May until mid-June.
5. Smooth Texan nectarine series. Three yellow-fleshed, medium-chill nectarines that ripen from mid-May until early June.
6. Smooth Zest nectarines. White-fleshed and yellow-fleshed pair of low-chill nectarines with a tangy sweet flavor that ripen in mid-May.
7. Smooth Delight nectarines. White-fleshed and yellow-fleshed pair of low-chill nectarines and a medium-chill white-fleshed nectarine with superb sweet flavor that ripen in mid- to late May.
8. Flat Delight peaches. This is a pair of deliciously sweet medium-chill flat or donut peaches.
9. Tropical peaches. This includes the Tropic Zest series, Tropicprince and TexFirst. These are low-chill yellow-fleshed peaches that ripen from early May to mid-June.

The Stone Fruit Testing Program is designed to allow growers to obtain a few trees of many of these selections for trial on their own farms. Thus, orders for sets of trees from individuals will be taken through May 15, 2019. Budwood of the ordered trees will be collected and sent to Burchell Nursery in California. The trees will be available for planting in February of 2020. **A minimum of two trees and a maximum of ten trees of each cultivar can be ordered for testing.** The cost per tree is \$8.50. Payment for trees is due when orders are placed. ***Please use the order form PDF to place orders.*** Questions about ordering trees through the program can be directed to Dr. David Byrne (dbyrne@tamu.edu, 979-845-9500)

New Peach and Nectarines Varieties for Texas 2019

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High-Medium Chill Zone – Zones 2 and 3			
Variety	Chilling	Ripe	Comments
Fire Zest One	550	Early May	Attractive, yellow peach. Firm.
Smooth Texan One	550	Mid May	Attractive, yellow nectarine
Royal Zest One	550	Late May	Highly colored yellow peach.
Regal	700	Late May	Standard yellow peach.
Smooth Texas Two	550	Late May	Attractive yellow nectarine.
White Delight One	550	Late May	White subacid white peach.
Flat Delight One	500	Late May	White subacid donut peach. Medium size. Excellent flavor.
Smooth Delight Three	500	Late May	White subacid nectarine.
Royal Zest Two	500	Early June	Highly colored yellow peach.
Smooth Texan Three	650	Early June	Attractive subacid yellow nectarine. Excellent firmness and flavor.
White Zest	550	Early June	Productive, white, traditional flavor, peach.
June Gold	650	Early June	Large size but problems with cropping, shape, and tends to split.
Flat Delight Two	550	Early June	Yellow subacid donut peach.
Royal Zest Three	550	Mid June	Highly colored semi freestone yellow peach.
White Delight Two	550	Mid June	White, subacid peach.
TexRoyal	600	Mid June	Highly colored freestone, medium firm, tendency for suture bulge, productive.
Juneprince	650	Mid June	Standard. Yellow peach.
Galaxy	550	Late June	White, subacid, donut peach.
Royal Zest Four	600	Late June	Attractive freestone yellow peach.
Sentinel	750	Late June	Standard peach. Marginal firmness.
Golden Zest	600	Late June	Attractive yellow peach.
Harvester	750	Early July	Standard peach. Freestone, yellow, peach.
White Delight Three	700	Early July	White subacid peach.
White Delight Four	700	Mid July	White subacid peach.

Medium Chill Zone – Zones 4 and 5

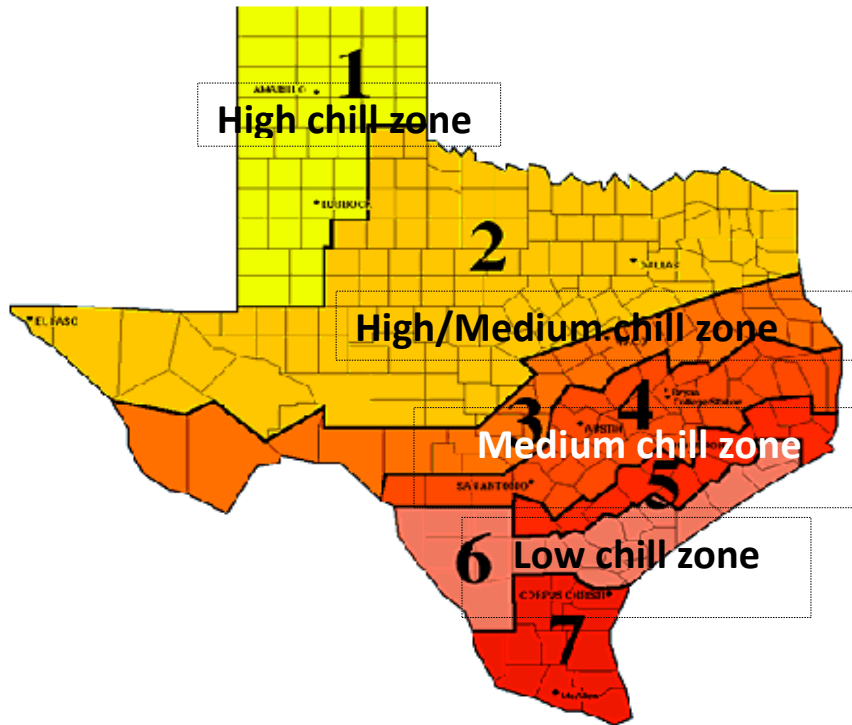
Variety	Chilling	Ripe	Comments
TexFirst	200	Early May	Attractive, yellow peach.
Fire Zest One	550	Early May	Attractive, yellow peach. Firm.
Smooth Zest One	350	Early May	Attractive white nectarine. Medium firm.
Smooth Zest Two	350	Early May	Attractive yellow nectarine. Medium firm.
Flordaking	450	Mid May	Standard. Large size, marginal color and firmness. Variable shape. Splits if low crop.
Smooth Delight One	350	Mid May	White subacid nectarine. Firm.
Smooth Delight Two	350	Mid May	Yellow sub acid nectarine. Firm.
Smooth Texan One	550	Mid May	Attractive, yellow nectarine.
Royal Zest One	550	Late May	Highly colored yellow peach.
TexKing	450	Late May	Large, round to ovate, 70% blush, productive.
Smooth Texas Two	550	Late May	Attractive yellow nectarine.
White Delight One	550	Late May	White, subacid white peach.
Smooth Delight Three	500	Late May	White sub acid nectarine. Firm.
Royal Zest Two	500	Late May	Attractive, firm, yellow peach. Firm.
Flat Delight One	500	Late May	White sub acid donut peach.
Texstar	550	Early June	Standard. Need to thin well to size since set heavy. Pointy in low chill years.
White Zest One	550	Early June	Productive, white flesh, peach, traditional flavor.
June Gold	650	Early June	Standard. Large size, inconsistent cropping, shape, and tendency to split.
Flat Delight Two	550	Early June	Yellow sub acid donut peach.
Royal Zest Three	550	Mid June	Highly colored yellow peach.
White Delight Two	550	Mid June	White, subacid peach. Attractive.
TexRoyal	600	Mid June	Well colored freestone, good firm, tendency for suture bulge, productive.
TexPrince	550	Mid June	Large, freestone with 70% blush, medium firmness, and shape.

Low Chill Zone – Zones 6 and 7

Variety	Chilling	Ripe	Comments
TropicPrince	150	Early May	Larger than Flordaprince, excellent cropping, shape, and firmness.
TexFirst	200	Early May	Attractive yellow peach.
Tropic Zest One	150	Early May	Yellow peach. Backyard use.
Tropic Zest Two	150	Mid May	Yellow peach. Backyard use.
TropicBeauty	150	Mid May	Standard yellow peach.

TropicSnow	150	Mid May	White peach. Backyard use.
Tropic Zest Three	150	Late May	Yellow peach. Backyard use.
Tropic Zest Four	150	Late May	Yellow peach. Backyard use.
TropicSweet	150	Late May	Yellow peach. Backyard use.

Texas Chilling Zones for Stone Fruits



Licensed nurseries	Telephone	Website
Burchell Nurseries, Oakdale, CA	209-845-8733	http://www.burchellnursery.com/
Womack Nurseries, DeLeon, TX	254-893-6497	https://womacknursery.com/
TreeSap Farms LLC, TX	979-677-3090	https://www.treetownusa.com/
Heritage Farms, TN	931-939-3367	http://www.mtna.com/MemberDetail.aspx?ID=982
Cumberland Valley Nurseries, TN	931-668-4153	http://www.mtna.com/MemberDetail.aspx?ID=955
Texas Pecan Nursery, TX	800-205-3008	http://texaspecannursery.com/
For information on propagation licenses, contact David Byrne (dbyrne@tamu.edu , 979-845-9500)		