

(i) GENERAL INFORMATION

Breeder	Zaiger's Genetics
Variety owner South Africa	Zaiger SA
Managing agent	Custom Plum Company
Fruit kind	Inter-specific plum
Marketing restrictions	No restrictions
Royalty structure	
» Tree	\$1/Tree on planting
» Hectare	Year 3 = \$750/ha Year 4+ = \$950/ha

TREE CHARACTERISTICS

Chilling requirement	300-350 Richardson
Growth habit	Basal dominant. A lot of growth is produced in the bottom half of the trees.
Vigour	Medium vigour
Flowering date	Full bloom week 35 - week 36 in warm areas.
Bears fruit on	Two-year old bearing units and spurs.

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Harvest date warm areas	Week 50 - week 52
Harvest date colder areas	Week 51 - week 1
Control variety	Festival Red / Sunkiss
Sizing	AA
Skin colour	Dark purple / black
Flesh colour	Red
Fruit shape	Round
Texture	Melting

Very good production, but bearing units needs to be renewed 25% per annum. Trees can easily handle good yields and still produce the optimum fruit size of AA.

The fruit tends to shrivel so harvesting the fruit too early or too late can aggravate the shrivelling.

STORAGE & SHIPPING

Storage ability	Good
Shipping	Single temperature
Storage trials	Independently evaluated



EBONY ROSE FACTSHEET

POLLINATION

Beehive requirement	10 Beehives per hectare
Flowering date: 10%	10% Flowering in warm areas: Week 33 10% Flowering in colder areas: Week 35
Pollinator 1	Ruby Dawn – First flowers Compatibility: 50%
Pollinator 2	African Delight - First to mid flowers Compatibility: 100%
Pollinator 3	Harry Pickstone – Late flowers Compatibility: 50%
Pollinator 4	Honey Punch - Late flowers Compatibility: 100%
% Pollination required	» If planted in rows of example two rows Ebony Rose and 1 row African Delight, only 10-15% pollination is necessary.
	» Pollinators needs to be planted with both cultivars.
	» If planted as a single cultivar then 25% pollination is needed.

↔ OTHER REMARKS:

Very good production with good fruit size. Early thinning will ensure optimal fruit size. The fruit have an attractive dark purple/black skin with red flesh. The fruit stays very firm even if it is close to being harvested at the optimal stage. The fruit have very good flavour when harvested at optimal ripeness.

Only an early natural fruit drop have been experienced. Due to medium vigour, summer pruning needs to be done very early to ensure optimal regrowth otherwise sunburn can become a problem. Fruit to leaf ratio needs to be optimum to minimize any potential sunburn.

Due to the combination of basal dominancy and medium vigour, tree training management will be extremely important to ensure the tree reach and fill the top wires by manipulating new growth regularly during the growing stage.



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