



GENERAL INFORMATION

Breeder	Zaiger's Genetics
Variety owner South Africa	Zaiger SA
Managing agent:	Custom Plum Company
Fruit kind	Inter-specific plum
Marketing restrictions	Apply
Royalty structure	
» Tree	\$1/Tree on planting
» Hectare	Year 3 = \$750/ha Year 4+ = \$950/ha

TREE CHARACTERISTICS

Chilling requirement	400 Richardson
Growth habit	Semi-upright
Vigour	Medium vigour
Flowering date	Full bloom week 36 - week 48 in warm areas.
Bears fruit on	Two-year old shoots and spurs.

PRODUCTION CHARACTERISTICS

Harvest date warm areas	Week 1 - week 3
Harvest date colder areas	Week 3 – week 4
Control variety	Honey Punch
Sizing	AA+
Skin colour	Black (Angelino type)
Flesh colour	Yellow
Fruit Shape	Slightly flat
Texture	Crisp

Excellent production, but bearing units needs to be renewed 25% per annum.

It is best to harvest the fruit at cooler temperatures to avoid any potential quality problems, so early mornings until the temperature becomes a risk is recommended.

Due to the short stem the fruit can press against the bearing unit so when harvesting, it is important to pick the fruit carefully to avoid injuries.

Trees can easily handle good yields and still produce the optimum fruit size of AA.

STORAGE & SHIPPING

Storage ability	Very good
Shipping	Single temperature and steri
Storage trials	Independently evaluated



MIDNIGHT GOLD

FACTSHEET

POLLINATION

Beehive requirement	10 Beehives per hectare
Flowering date: 10%	10% Flowering in warm areas: Week 34 10% Flowering in colder areas: Week 36
Pollinator 1	African Delight – First to mid flowers Compatibility: 100%
Pollinator 2	Ruby Dawn - Mid flowers Compatibility: 50%
Pollinator 3	Honey Punch – Mid to late flowers Compatibility: 100%
Pollinator 4	Flavour Delight - Late flowers Compatibility: 100%
Pollinator 5	Midnight Star - Late flowers Compatibility: 50%
% Pollination required	» If planted in rows of example two rows Midnight Gold and 2 rows Honey Punch or Ruby Dawn 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 fruit set so early thinning is required, but the spacing and bearing position of the fruit is most important seeing that it sizes very easily but has a short stem that can cause the fruit pressing against the bearing unit. If there has set enough fruit on the trees, thinning to a single fruit is recommended to avoid unnecessary fruit drop due to short stems and large sized fruit. Only an early natural fruit drop have been experienced. Due to good yields, summer pruning needs to be done very early to ensure regrowth otherwise being a dark coloured fruit sunburn can become a problem. Fruit to leaf ratio needs to be optimum to minimize any potential sunburn and pit burn. Following a proper fertilizer program is recommended to assist and optimize good yields. Being a dark coloured fruit, irrigation management needs to be optimum, especially during warm days and heat waves to minimize any potential quality problems.