

Melon

CROP GUIDE



Market leaders in the East



Accolade

Accolade is an eastern shipper variety that features improved fruit quality and a comprehensive disease resistance package for early to main season plantings.

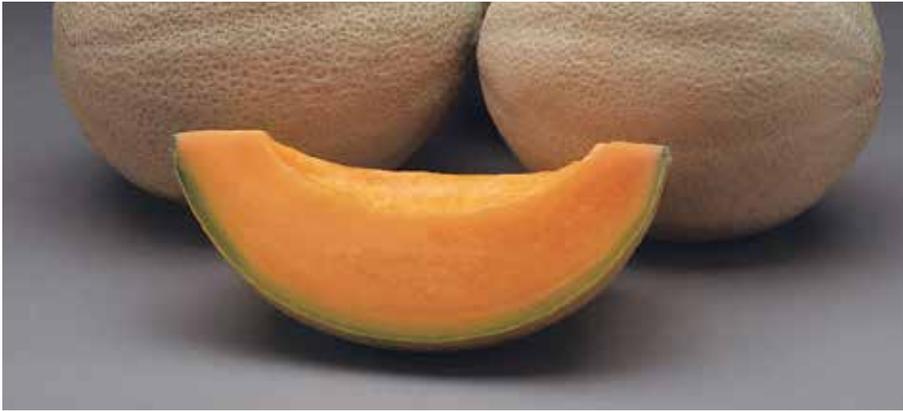
- Tight seed cavity with firm, orange flesh
- Medium netted exterior
- Enhanced vine strength
- Bred for resistance to cotton aphid
- Improved internal fruit quality for extended shelf life
- Strong and vigorous plant to stand up to field stress and resist fruit cracking



Astound

Astound is an eastern shipper variety that features improved flesh firmness, a tighter seed cavity and an enhanced disease resistance package for main to late season plantings.

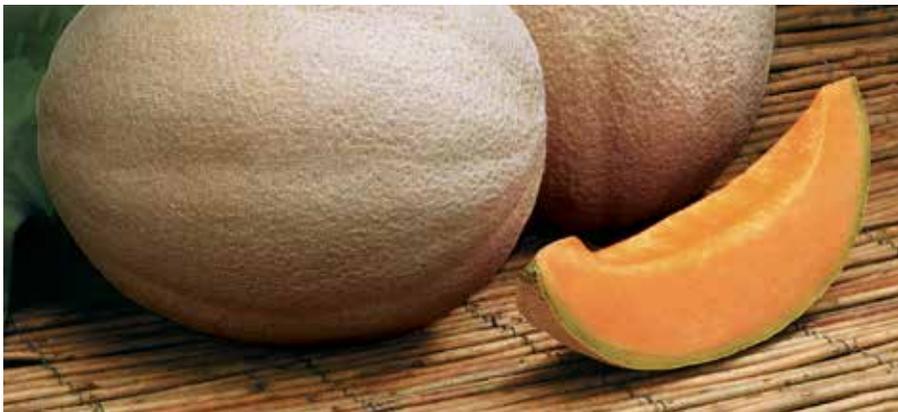
- Firm, orange flesh with a small, tight cavity
- High quality, netted appearance
- Enhanced vine strength
- Bred for resistance to cotton aphid
- Improved internal fruit quality and flesh firmness for extended shelf life
- Strong and vigorous plant to stand up to field stress and resist fruit cracking



Athena

The melon of choice for the eastern U.S., Athena is an innovative hybrid cantaloupe that delivers the sweet flavor and texture consumers demand. Athena melons stay firm even when harvested at full slip.

- Industry standard
- Proven performance in all major eastern melon production areas
- The name “Athena” is recognized by the broker through to the consumer
- High-quality and flavor that has set the market standard
- Average fruit weight 5 to 6 pounds
- Approximately 75 days to maturity



Aphrodite

Aphrodite delivers an improved fruit netting in a larger-sized melon, while offering early maturity that secures an early jump on the market.

- Early-maturing Athena type
- Larger fruit size
- Improved fruit net
- Has done well in Midwest plantings
- Average fruit weight 6 to 7 pounds
- Approximately 72 days to maturity

Bringing new innovation to the West



Sweet Sunrise

Sweet Sunrise is a long shelf life variety that produces fruit of desirable size and consistent quality with excellent flavor. Its enhanced disease resistance package and vigorous plant make Sweet Sunrise an ideal variety for early planting slots.

- Small, closed cavity
- Orange flesh with firm texture
- Very dense netting
- Vigorous plant
- Enhanced disease resistance package
- Bred for resistance to cotton aphid
- Extended shelf life to meet market needs
- Excels in earlier planting slots



Sweet Spring

Sweet Spring is a long shelf life Harper type variety that produces round fruit with dense netting, a tight seed cavity and dark orange flesh. This variety features a significantly enhanced disease resistance package and offers improved fruit quality.

- Dark orange, firm flesh with unique flavor profile
- Small, closed cavity and strong, dense netting
- Enhanced disease resistance package
- Improved fruit quality for high consumer appeal
- Extended shelf life that meets market needs
- Reduced waste due to less shrinkage in storage



Heidi (MS7350)

Heidi is a long shelf life (Harper) variety with good field holding ability and strong plant vigor. It has a tight seed cavity and excellent firm flesh. A widely adapted variety to different growing areas featuring uniform fruit shape and sizes with good coverage of netting on the fruit.

- Excellent crown setting producing much higher and concentrated yield potential
- Widely adapted to different growing areas
- Strong plant with a comprehensive disease and insect resistance package



Sweet Break (MS8055)

A main season long shelf life (Harper) variety with very attractive dark orange flesh color and tight cavity. With good field holding ability and a comprehensive disease package, this variety is adapted to multiple growing regions including the Central Valley and Southwest Desert areas.

- Strong plant vigor
- Uniform size and shape make it ideal for bins and cartons
- Adapted to multiple growing regions
- Good field holding ability and longer shelf life makes variety ideal for transport and retailers

Bringing new innovation to the West



Novira

Novira is a Harper type melon variety producing round to oval fruits of nice quality and dense netting on the exterior. This variety is well suited to fall planting slots in the Desert Southwest region.

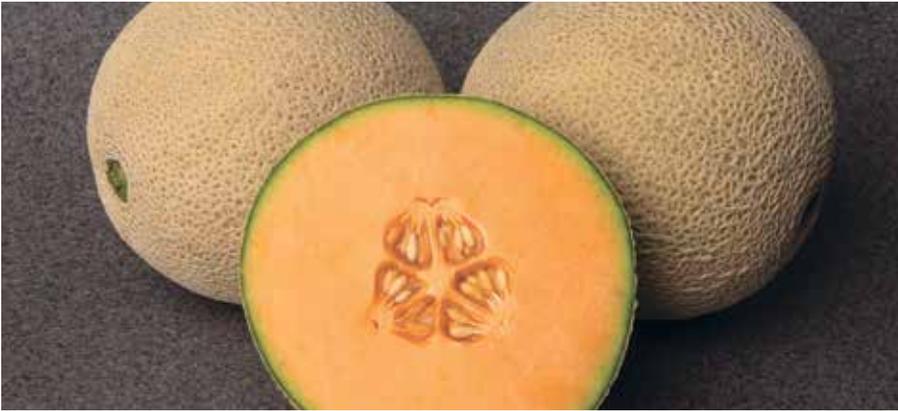
- Dark orange, firm flesh
- Strong plant vigor
- Excellent eating quality
- Good disease resistance package
- Extended shelf life
- Intermediate resistance to cucurbit yellow stunting disorder virus (CYSDV)



Sweet Shield

Sweet Shield is a Harper type melon variety producing good quality fruits for the fall market. Fruits have striking dark orange flesh and dense netting.

- Dark orange flesh with a tight seed cavity
- Dense netting on fruit
- Strong disease resistance package
- Concentrated fruit harvest
- Ideal for early fall production in Desert Southwest region
- Intermediate resistance to cucurbit yellow stunting disorder virus (CYSDV)



Gold Crown

A western shipper variety poised to perform well in the San Joaquin Valley, Gold Crown is an early- to main-season variety for the March to April sowing window. Its consistent fruit shape and large fruit size make this a desirable variety for growers and packers, while its firmer flesh, sweet taste and longer shelf life are sure to attract consumers.

- Firm, dark orange flesh
- Good sugar development with shipper taste
- Slightly oval fruit with very dense netting
- Excellent disease resistance package
- Maintains superb fruit quality and freshness for long shelf life
- Early- to main-season variety allows for early market opportunities



Gold Express

High-performing hybrid that stands up to variable growing conditions and delivers abundant fruit with excellent eating qualities.

- An ideal western shipper that produces medium to large fruit
- Excellent flavor and internal quality, featuring a tight seed cavity and firm, dark-orange flesh
- Superior appearance enhanced by a dense net covering the exterior
- Designed for prolonged harvest conditions
- Performs well in late spring and fall plantings in the Desert Southwest
- Provides growers in the San Joaquin Valley a main-season variety with improved fruit size

Bringing new innovation to the West



Valley Express (ME0244)

Valley Express is an extended shelf life melon suitable for main season production in California and Arizona. It has firm flesh for improved shelf life and a tight seed cavity. With improved concentrated harvest and post-harvest shelf life as well as good eating quality.

- Tight seed cavity with firm, orange flesh
- Extended shelf life
- Enhanced vine strength
- Great disease resistance package
- Bred for resistance to cotton aphid
- Improved internal fruit quality for extended shelf life



Damaris (ME8892)

Damaris is an extended shelf life variety widely adapted to different growing areas for season-long supply. It has good field holding and post-harvest shelf life with less shrink.

- Increased flesh firmness provides good field holding ability and postharvest shelf life with less shrink
- Widely adapted to different growing areas for season-long supply
- Ideal for both carton and bin packing
- Uniform fruit shape and sizes with good coverage of netting on the fruit



Garth

Garth is an extended shelf life melon variety that produces round to oval fruits with tight netting on the exterior. Fruits have excellent eating quality and attractive dark orange flesh.

- Round to oval fruits with dense netting
- Tight seed cavity and dark orange flesh
- Good flesh firmness for extended shelf life
- High marketable fruit yield potential
- Suitable for early planting slots in Desert Southwest region



Desert Express

Desert Express is an extended shelf life variety that produces round to oval fruits with a tight seed cavity and dense netting on the exterior. This variety is well suited for early planting slots in the Desert Southwest region.

- Dark orange flesh with excellent eating quality
- Good flesh firmness for extended shelf life
- Good marketable fruit yield potential
- Ideal for production in the Desert Southwest region

Technical data: melon

Variety	Approx. days to maturity	Average fruit length x width (in)	Interior appearance
MELON: EASTERN SHIPPER			
Aphrodite	72	7 x 6.5	Thick flesh similar to Athena
Accolade	73	7.5 x 6.7	Small tight cavity with orange flesh
Astound	75	7.5 x 6.7	Small tight cavity with orange flesh
Athena	75	6.5 x 6	Thick flesh; very firm for an eastern type
MELON: WESTERN SHIPPER			
Primo	77	7.5 x 7	Thick, medium-dark orange flesh; medium cavity
Gold Express	83	6.1 x 5.9	Dark orange; tight cavity
Gold Crown	85	6.2 x 6	Nice orange color, closed cavity
MELON: HARPER TYPE			
Sweet Spring	90	7 x 6	Small closed cavity with orange flesh
NEW Heidi (MS7350)	100	7.6 x 6.9	Small closed cavity with orange flesh
NEW Sweet Break (MS8055)	100	7 x 6	Small closed cavity with orange flesh
Novira	100-110	7 x 6	Dark orange flesh
Sweet Shield	100-110	7 x 6	Small, closed cavity with dark orange flesh
Sweet Sunrise	100	7 x 6	Small closed cavity with orange flesh
MELON: EXTENDED SHELF LIFE			
NEW Valley Express (ME0244)	74	6.7 x 6	Small closed cavity with dark orange flesh
NEW Damaris (ME8892)	78-80	7.5 x 6.7	Small closed cavity with orange flesh
Garth	100-110	7 x 6	Tight seed cavity with dark orange flesh
Desert Express	100-110	7 x 6	Tight seed cavity with dark orange flesh

Disease abbreviation key

Ag	Cotton aphid
CYSDV	Cucurbit yellow stunting disorder virus
Fom	Fusarium wilt caused by specific races of <i>Fusarium oxysporum</i> f. sp. <i>melonis</i>
Gc	Powdery mildew caused by <i>Golovinomyces cichoracearum</i> (e.g., <i>Erysiphe cichoracearum</i>)
MNSV	Melon necrotic spot caused by melon necrotic spot virus
Px	Powdery mildew caused by <i>Podosphaera xanthii</i> (ex <i>Sphaerotheca fuliginea</i>)
S	Sulfur burn caused by the application of some sulfur-based pesticides
HR	High resistance
IR	Intermediate resistance
T	Tolerance

Exterior appearance	Disease resistance
Medium-coarse netting, slight suture that is netted	HR: Fom: 0, 1, 2 / Px: 1 T: S
Oval, netted	HR: Px: 1 / Px: 2US / Fom: 0, 1, 2 IR: Ag / Px: 3.5 T: S
Oval, netted	HR: Px: 1 / Px: 2US / Fom: 0, 1, 2 IR: Ag / Px: 3.5 T: S
Coarse netting; minor, netted indentations	HR: Fom: 0-2 / Px: 1, 2US T: S
Heavy netting; sutureless; slight indentations	HR: Px: 1, 2US T: S
Ropey, dense netting; sutureless	HR: Fom: 0, 2 / Px: 1 / Px: 2US T: S
Well netted, slightly oval fruit shape	HR: Fom: 0, 2 IR: Px: 1 / Px: 2US T: S
Well netted	HR: Px: 1 / Px: 2US / Fom: 0, 1, 2 / MNSV IR: Ag / Px: 3.5 T: S
Well netted	HR: Px: 1 / 2US / Fom: 0, 1, 2, MNSV IR: Ag / Px: 3.5 T: S
Well netted	HR: Px 1 / Px: 2US / Fom: 0, 1, 2, IR: Ag / Px: 3.5 T: S
Round to oval fruit shape and dense netting	HR: Px: 1 / Fom: 0, 1, 2 / MNSV IR: CYSDV / Px: 3.5 / Ag T: S
Round to oval fruit shape and dense netting	HR: Px: 1 / Px: 2US / Fom: 0, 1, 2 / MNSV IR: CYSDV / Px: 3.5 / Ag T: S
Well netted	HR: Px: 1 / Fom: 0, 1, 2 / MNSV IR: Ag / Px: 3.5 T: S
Well netted	HR: Px: 1 / Px: 2US / Fom: 0, 1, 2 IR: Ag / Px: 3.5 T: S
Good coverage of netting on the fruit	HR: Px: 2US / Fom: 0, 1, 2, MNSV IR: Ag / Px: 3.5 T: S
Round to oval fruit shape and dense netting	HR: Px: 1 / Px: 2US / Fom: 0, 2 T: S
Round to oval fruit shape and dense netting	HR: Px: 1 / Px: 2US / Fom: 0, 2 T: S

Pathogen races are indicated to the right of the abbreviation in parentheses [example: Sf (1, 2) = powdery mildew caused by races 1 and 2US of *Sphaerotheca fuliginea*]. In cases where specific races or strains are not noted, the variety is resistant to some, but not necessarily all known races or strains of the pathogen. For complete disease resistance information, please visit www.syngenta.com/vegetables.





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