

Strawberry Variety Review

David T. Handley, Vegetable & Small Fruit Specialist
University of Maine Cooperative Extension
P.O. Box 179, Monmouth Maine 04259-0179
david.handley@maine.edu

Early Season

Earliglow: An early berry of high quality. Fruit is firm with excellent flavor and color. Yields may be low in the Northeast. Fruit size tends to decrease as season progresses. Plants are vigorous runner producers and are resistant to red stele and Verticillium wilt.

Sable: From Nova Scotia. Medium to large fruit. Flavor is very good, but fruit are soft. Yield potential is high and picking period is long, but fruit size may decline sharply after the first harvests. Plants are vigorous, with some resistance to red stele.

Northeaster: Large, firm fruit with dark color strong flavor. Good yields for an early variety. Shy runner producer, but plants are vigorous and perform well on heavy soils. Resistant to red stele and Verticillium.

Evangeline: From Nova Scotia. A very early berry with a long conic shape and good flavor, but yield may be low in northern New England. Early flowering, so quite susceptible to frost injury. Plants are vigorous, but have no resistance to red stele or Verticillium wilt.

Wendy: From Nova Scotia. An early berry with good color, firmness and flavor. Yields have been very good. Not as early flowering as some other early varieties. Plants are vigorous and may have some tolerance to red stele. Some growers have reported problems with leaf spot.

Early-Midseason

Honeoye: From New York. Generally early ripening. High yielding. Large, very attractive fruit with firm flesh, but flavor may be tart or flat. Plants are vigorous and produce many runners. Very susceptible to red stele and no know resistance to Verticillium.

Annapolis: From Nova Scotia. Large fruit with good flavor and color, but somewhat soft. Very vigorous, free-running plants. Some winter injury reported. Some resistance to red stele.

Mira: From Nova Scotia. Large, firm, light red fruit with good quality. Plants have high yield potential and are vigorous with some resistance to red stele root rot and leaf diseases.

Brunswick: From Nova Scotia. Medium to large blocky fruit, attractive, dark red. Somewhat tender, and may be tart if not picked fully ripe. Very high yielding. Plants are vigorous with some resistance to red stele.

L'Amour: From New York. Large, bright red, firm, conic fruit with a fancy calyx. Yield has been variable across the region. Plants are vigorous but susceptible to red stele.

Darselect: French. Large, bright red, firm, uniform round-conic fruit with fancy calyx. Yields have been good. Flavor is sweet and mild. Plants are large, fairly vigorous, but very susceptible to leaf scorch.

Midseason

Cavendish: From Nova Scotia. Productive. Large, firm fruit with good flavor, but with an uneven ripening habit. High yield potential. Plants are moderately vigorous. Resistant to red stele and Verticillium, but susceptible to gray mold.

Kent: From Nova Scotia. High yielding. Large, attractive fruit with very good flavor. Plants are vigorous and good runner producers, but beds tend to run down after two or three seasons. No known resistance to red stele or Verticillium, susceptible to gray mold.

Jewel: From New York. Large, glossy, attractive fruit with firm texture. Very good yields. Moderate vigor and runner production. Some winter injury reported. Susceptible to red stele and Verticillium.

Mid-Late Season

Allstar: From USDA/ARS Berries are large, conical and light red to orange with mild, sweet flavor. The plants are vigorous and make runners freely. Resistant to red stele and Verticillium.

Cabot: From Nova Scotia. Very large, rough fruit, bright red, firm, but with tender skin. Plants need high vigor, i.e. good soil fertility. Plants have some resistance to red stele, but the fruit is susceptible to gray mold.

Sparkle: Excellent flavored fruit, but dark red and somewhat soft. Fruit size tends to decrease as season progresses. Plants are vigorous, copious runner producers with some resistance to red stele.

Mesabi: From Minnesota. Large attractive fruit and very good yields. Fruit tends to remain hidden under the foliage and may be tough to pick. Vigorous plants, resistant to red stele and leaf spot.

Late Season

Winona: From Minnesota. Large, firm, light-red fruit. Yields have been moderate, and some winter injury reported. Moderately vigorous plants with resistance to red stele root rot and tolerant of most leaf diseases.

Clancy: From New York. Large, dark red, round to conic fruit with good firmness. Vigorous, productive plants with some resistance to red stele.

Valley Sunset: From Nova Scotia. Large attractive fruit, with good color and firmness. Vigorous, very productive plants with a long harvest period.

Ovation: From USDA/ARS. Very late, with a more concentrated ripening period. Fruit are large and firm, slightly dark with good flavor, yields have been moderate. Vigorous plants with some root disease resistance.