

# IDEAL HARVEST STAGES FOR LSL MELONS

Long shelf life, or 'LSL,' melons are quickly gaining popularity in retail and foodservice alike. Although seemingly identical from a consumer standpoint, these new non-slip melons require different harvesting techniques than traditional Western and Eastern shippers. That's why we developed this handy tutorial that allows you to harvest the perfect LSL melon every time!



## FRUIT QUALITIES:

- Fruit are ready for harvest for market
- Marketable brix and high firmness

## RIPENESS INDICATORS:

- Net beginning to climb at the base of the stem
- Majority of stem is still visible



## FRUIT QUALITIES:

- Very good stage for harvest for market & home gardens
- Good flavor, brix and firmness

## RIPENESS INDICATORS:

- Net has climbed up the stem
- Light cracking around the base of the stem



## FRUIT QUALITIES:

- Fruit can still be harvested
- Good flavor and high brix, average firmness

## RIPENESS INDICATORS:

- Obvious cracking around the stem
- Net has climbed & covers most of stem

# MELON AT-A-GLANCE

Variety	Type	Relative Maturity*	Fruit Size / Shape	Rind Characteristics	Interior Characteristics	Disease Resistance	Uses & Remarks
<b>Cantaloupes</b>							
Atlantis	Eastern Shipper	Early	4-5 lb / round	Full fine net, shallow sutures	Dark orange flesh	HR: Fom: 0-2 / Sf: 1 IR: Sf: 2	Excellent field performance. Strong, vigorous vines.
Avatar	Eastern Shipper	Early	7-9 lb and larger / oval	Shallow, full net	Orange flesh	HR: Fom: 0-2 / Sf: 1 IR: Sf: 2	High sugars and great yields. Farm market type. Ideal for higher latitudes
Lilliput	Eastern Shipper	Early-mid	15s & 18s / round	Open netted	Dark orange, tight cavity	HR: Fom: 0-2 / Sf: 1, 2	Personal-sized Eastern cantaloupe with very high flavors and very firm flesh.
Infinite Gold	Long Shelf Life	Mid	9s & 12s / round-oval	Full net	Orange flesh	HR: Fom: 0-2 / Sf: 1, 2	Infinite Gold beats the competition in flavor and quality according to a recent sensory analysis study.
Timeless Gold	Long Shelf Life	Mid	9s & 12s, round, oval	Full net	Orange flesh	HR: Fom: 0, 2 / Sf: 2	High yielding variety with uniform shapes and sizes. Excellent flavor.
Alaniz Gold	Western Shipper	Main season	9s / round-oval	Full net	Orange, firm, medium-closed cavity	HR: Fom: 0-2 / Sf: 1 IR: Sf: 2	Strong vine, uniform fruit size, high yield, with excellent Brix and firmness.
Olympic Express	Western Shipper	Early	9s, 12s & 15s / round-oval	Full net	Dark orange color, firm, crisp flesh	HR: Sf: 1, 2 IR: Fom: 0, 2	A variety for both fresh and fresh-cut markets. Exceptional fruit quality.
Olympic Gold	Western Shipper	Mid-late	9s & 12s / round-oval	Full net	Very firm, crisp flesh	HR: Fom: 2 / Sf: 1, 2	Consistent and productive. Wide adaptability.
Oro Duro	Western Shipper	Mid-late	9s, 12s & 15s / round	Full net	Orange, closed cavity, small cavity	HR: Sf: 1, 2 IR: Fom: 2	Strong vine under stress conditions. Heavy yielder.
<b>Honeydews &amp; Mixed Melons</b>							
Camino Europa	Amarillo	Mid	5s, 6s & 7s	Smooth, beautiful yellow color	Light green/white flesh, firm, small cavity	HR: Fom: 0, 1, 2	Camino Europa has excellent yield and great shipping qualities for the European market.
Dulce Nectar	Honeydew	Early-late	4s & 5s / round oval	Smooth, creamy white	Light green flesh with closed cavity	HR: Fom: 2 IR: Sf: 1, 2	Good sizes and high yields for growing in cool to warm or hot seasons.
Honeybrew	Honeydew	Mid	5s, 6s & 8s / oval	Smooth, creamy white	Light green firm flesh	HR: Fom: 0, 2 IR: Sf: 1, 2	High yielding, vigorous vine, excellent fruit quality with uniform size and maturity. Good choice for fresh cut. Industry standard.
Megabrew	Honeydew	Mid	4s & 5s / round	Smooth, creamy white	Nice even green flesh	HR: Fom: 0, 2 IR: Sf: 1, 2	Good yields of large fruit, very uniform.
Snow Mass	Honeydew	Mid-early	5s, 6s & 8s / round, blocky round	Smooth	Tight cavity, light green flesh	HR: Fom: 0, 2 / Sf: 1	Heavy fruit set, excellent taste and high Brix.
Super Nectar	Honeydew	Late	4s, 5s & 6s / round oval	Smooth, creamy white	Medium semi-closed cavity	HR: Fom: 2 IR: Sf: 1	Excellent shape and size uniformity. Good Brix and firmness.
Citrino	Honeydew, Orange	Mid	6.5" / round	Smooth, creamy color	Orange flesh with medium cavity	HR: PRSV-W IR: Sf: 1, 2	Excellent choice for growers looking for a "value added" melon.

Disease terminology: HR = High Resistance, IR = Intermediate Resistance. Disease code: Fom - Fusarium wilt, Sf - Powdery mildew. \* Days to Relative Maturity are an approximation and may fluctuate due to varying planting times, location and conditions.

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