

Aronia – *Aronia mitschurinii*

Climate								Soil						
Min Optimal Temp (°F)	Max Optimal Temp (°F)	Min Absolute Temp (°F)	Max Absolute Temp (°F)	Growing Degree Days (°F base)	Chilling Hours (32-45 °F)	Min Rainfall (in/year)	Max Rainfall (in/year)	Min pH	Max pH	Optimal Soil Texture	Absolute Soil Texture	Optimal Soil Drainage	Absolute Soil Drainage	Soil Depth (in)
-30 ^{l,o,q}	90 ^{c,d,h}	-40 ^{l,o,q}	93 ^{c,d,h}	N/A	N/A	23 ^{e,o}	120 ^{e,o}	4.4 ^{m,o,q}	8.5 ^{m,o,q}	clay loam, silty clay loam, sandy clay loam, loam, silt loam, sandy loam, loamy sand, silt, sand ^{b,d,o}	clay, sandy clay, silty clay, muck ^{b,d,o}	well drained, moderately well drained ^{e,l,q}	excessively drained, somewhat excessive drained, somewhat poorly drained, very poorly drained ^{e,l,q}	12 ^{j,o}

	Key Months for Crop Development and Thresholds											
	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV
Stage of growth (under current conditions)	Dormant	Dormant	Dormant	Dormant	Budbreak, Leaf Out ^{f,n,p}	Flowering ^{f,n,p}	Fruit Development ^{a,n,p}	Fruit Development ^{a,n,p}	Fruit Ripening, Harvest ^{a,n,p}	Fruit Ripening, Harvest ^{a,n,p}	Leaf Drop ^{n,p}	Dormant

Key Cultivars: ^{g,k,l}

Aronia melanocarpa is our native wild aronia or black chokeberry. It was crossed with European Mountain Ash (*Sorbus aucuparia*) by Russian plant breeder, Ivan Michurin, to produce *A. mitschurinii*. Today, commonly cultivated aronia varieties like 'Viking' and 'Nero' are all *A. mitschurinii*. There is also very little genetic diversity among them.

- 'Viking' (developed in Finland, one of most popular aronia cultivars in U.S. for berry production, high yielding)
- 'Nero' (developed in Poland, one of most popular aronia cultivars in U.S. for berry production, high yielding)
- 'McKenzie' (recent introduction from North Dakota for berry production, high yielding)
- 'Galijcanka' (recent introduction from Poland for berry production, even fruit ripening)
- 'Autumn Magic' (developed in North America, bred for ornamental instead of fruit production)
- 'Iroquois Beauty' (developed in U.S., bred for ornamental instead of fruit production)

Climate Risk Notes: ^{i,p}

Aronia is extremely cold hardy (hardy to USDA zone 3) and can withstand most temperature extremes found in Wisconsin.

Aronia needs consistent precipitation or irrigation during fruit development. Too little or too much water can result in fruit abortion and reduced yields.

References

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