Mulberry – *Morus alba, Morus alba x rubra*

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)**
-20 [c, e, o]	95 [e, g, o]	-36 [c, e, o]	108 [e, g, o]	N/A	N/A	30 [n, o]	238 [n, o]	4.9 [e, m, o]	8.0 [e, m, o]	clay loam, silty clay loam, sandy clay loam, loam, silt loam [g, n, o]	clay, sandy clay, silty clay, sandy loam, loamy sand, silt, sand [g, n, o]	well drained, moderately well drained [a, d, p]	excessively drained, somewhat excessively drained, well drained, moderately well drained, somewhat poorly drained, poorly drained [a, d, p]	20 [g, n, 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 [b, f]	Flowering, Leaf Out [b, f]	Fruit Development, Fruit Ripening, Harvest [b, f]	Fruit Ripening, Harvest [b, f]	Fruit Ripening, Harvest [b, f]	Vegetative Growth [b, f]	Leaf Drop [b, f]	Dormant [b, f]

Key Cultivars: [h, k, l]

White mulberry (*Morus alba*) is an introduced species from China. It hybridizes regularly with our native red mulberry (*M. rubra*). Multiple varieties have been wild selected and/or bred for fruit and, to a lesser degree, foliage and ornamental value. The following are varieties that are known for cold hardiness, but due to the invasive status of white mulberry in Wisconsin, none of them have been well tested in the state.

- 'Illinois Everbearing' (hybrid, everbearing, most popular cultivar in the Midwest)
- 'David Smith Everbearing' (alba, everbearing, originated from NY)
- 'Northrup' (alba, early cultivar from NY, reportedly extremely cold hardy)
- 'Trader' (alba, originated from Germany, reportedly extremely cold hardy)
- 'Weeping' (hybrid, primarily grown as ornamental)

Climate Risk Notes: [i, j]

Both white mulberry and its hybrid have high genetic diversity. Cold hardiness is therefore extremely variable. While mulberry typically grows better in warmer climates, there have been reports of certain mulberry varieties surviving temperatures of -30°F or lower. Select varieties from northern sources whenever possible.

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