

'Flavorfest' Strawberry (*Fragaria hybrid*)

12-16", very vigorous variety.
Released in 2012 by the breeding program at the USDA
Beltsville Research Center in Maryland, after having
produced excellent trial results over a decade of testing.

'Flavorfest' is an early mid-season variety, with excellent
yields, and a prolonged season.
Notably large, attractive, bright red, pleasantly plump firm
fruits, with an excellent flavor profile. Freezes well.

Strawberries have pretty white five-petaled flowers with
yellow centers, in May.

Strawberries require full sun, organically rich,
medium moisture, and well-drained soils.
Water regularly, but do not overwater.
With Flavorfest's high vigor, applications of nitrogen
should be managed to avoid excessive growth.

Excellent disease resistance. No susceptibility to
anthracnose crown or fruit rot. Resistant or tolerance
to most of the stem and leaf diseases.
Excellent resistance to red stele.

Its vigor and disease resistance make it a good option
for organic production.

Strawberries are also good plants for groundcover,
edging, or in terraced beds.

Attracts bees, birds.

Growing tips:

extension.oregonstate.edu/deschutes/sites/default/files/ec1307.pdf

June-bearing strawberry varieties often planted using the matted row system.

*Set strawberry plant in the soil so that the soil is just covering the tops of
the roots. Do not cover the crown. Space plants 7 to 12" apart, staggered
in double rows 3 to 4' apart. Mix fertilizer in soil when planting (5-10-5),
no additional fertilizer is needed the rest of the year.*

*For maximum berry production after planting, consider pinching off first
flush of flowers so plants can direct energy into establishing a strong root
system during the first year.*

*In a home garden, you can keep your strawberry patch going indefinitely
by letting the mother plants (the first plants you set out) bear fruit and send
out runners for two years. Then pull the older plants out, leaving the
daughter plants produced by the runners. If you follow this pattern, you'll
never have any plant more than 2 years old in the garden, and you'll always
have new, vigorous, disease-free plants starting up.*

*Cover bed with mulch in late fall after several hard frosts. Rake the mulch
off the plants when they turn green in spring but don't remove it completely –
leave some between rows over the summer.*

Photos 1-3: USDA Agricultural Research Service, Beltsville, MD
ars.usda.gov/northeast-area/beltsville-md/beltsville-agricultural-research-center/genetic-improvement-for-fruits-vegetables-laboratory/docs/flavorfest-2012/
Photo 4: Moja; commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Strawberry_flower.jpg
Photo 5: North Central Conservation District

