

Zenith Black Bean

Genetic and Agronomic Information

Zenith was developed by Michigan State University AgBioResearch and released in 2014. Zenith is an upright, full season cultivar with anthracnose resistance and excellent canning quality. Zenith combines very high yield potential with erect architecture (type II upright short vine) with high pod placement and resistance to lodging.

Zenith is suitable for direct harvesting under narrow row production systems. The upright architecture also contributes to avoidance of white mold. Zenith carries the single dominant hypersensitive I gene form of resistance to Bean Common Mosaic Virus (BMCV). Zenith retains its black color when canned and was rated highest in canned bean color in the black bean seed class.

Marketing

Plant variety protection (PVP94) under Title V has been applied for. Seed of Zenith black bean can only be sold by variety name as a class of certified seed. Authorized seed classes will be breeder, foundation, and certified. Zenith black bean is marketed and sold by members of the Michigan Crop Improvement Association through an licensing agreement. A royalty fee will be assessed on each unit of seed sold. Zenith seed will be inspected and certified by MCIA inspectors to insure a high quality product.

For more information or a list of producers, please contact your local seed dealer or the MCIA office at:

Michigan Crop Improvement Association

P.O. Box 21008

Lansing, MI 48909

Phone # 517/332-3546

Web site: www.michcrop.com