

BLACK BEAUTY®

Sambucus nigra 'Gerda'

pp#12,305

Common name: elderberry



Landscape Info:	
USDA/AHS zones:	USDA 4/AHS 7
Mature height:	8-12'/2.4-3.6 m
Exposure:	Part shade-sun
Irrigation:	Average

Features & Benefits:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dramatic dark purple-black foliage. - Lacy pink flower clusters in early summer. - Will bear fruit if a compatible pollinator is nearby (Black Lace®, Instant Karma®, Laced Up®). - Very adaptable to soil conditions. Deer-resistant. - Can be grown as a shrub or small tree.



Cultural info:		
pH Level:	5.6 – 6.2	
Nutrient Needs:	Average	
EC (2:1 extract):	0.6 – 0.9	
Light Level:	Moderate-high	
Watering:	Moderate	
Rooting Out Temp:	65 – 72° F/18.3 – 22.2° C	
Overwintering Temp:	Polyhouse, no heat (where hardy)	
Sales Window:	All season; early summer bloom	
Blooms On:	Old wood	
Trimming/pruning:	Frequent light pruning – see grower tips	
Vernalization:	Required	
Vigor Rating:	Average to fast	
Finish Size	Liner Size	Weeks of Active Growth to Finish
1 gallon	2 ¼" • 4" • QT	8-10 • 7-9 • 6-8
2 - 3 gallon	2 ¼" • 4" • QT	14-16 • 12-14 • 10-12

Grower Tips:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plants will not attain best color grown under poly; move to full sun for a few weeks before sale or grow in high light. • Blooms on old wood – dormant or spring pruning will remove flower buds and potential fruit. However, plant has high amount of retail appeal even without blooms. • Elderberry has an awkward habit and the best way to develop a nicely rounded plant is to pinch vegetative growth through the season. However, depending on your market, plants can be allowed to root in, given 1 pinch, and still be saleable that season. • Do not cut into thick stems, especially in summer, as this will shut down all new growth until fall. Hard pruning during the growing season results in odd, horizontal growth (hard dormant pruning is okay, however). • Liners can be potted directly to a 3 gallon can; however, monitor watering carefully. You can also produce a 3 gallon with a 1 gallon shift; add 8-10 weeks to the time to finish the 1 gallon.
NOTES: