

## Michigan Purple

**Parentage:** W870 x Maris Piper  
**Developers:** Michigan State University and the Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station  
**Plant Variety Protection:** In application

**Strengths:** Michigan Purple is a purple-skinned tablestock variety with brilliant white flesh with low incidence of internal defects. The tubers have an attractive round-ovoid shape and a strong iridescent purple skin. Yield is high under irrigated conditions, and also performs well under dryland conditions.



**Weaknesses:** Susceptibility to common scab.

**Incentives for production:** The purple-skinned, white-fleshed tubers of Michigan Purple offer a unique type that could lend itself to the specialty variety market, such as gourmet restaurants and food stores, as well as farm and road-side markets.

**Seed Availability:** Virus-free tissue culture plantlets of Michigan Purple were sent to Sklarczyk Seed Farm (8714 M32 East, Johannesburg, MI 49751 phone 989-731-5452) and Krueger Seed Farm (2797 W. Hawkes Hwy., Hawks, MI 49743 phone 989-734-7366). Small amounts of seed for testing can be obtained from Dave Douches at Michigan State University (884-6946, douchesd@msu.edu).

### *Morphological Characteristics:*

**Plant:** Semi-erect vine is medium to tall in height, with a balance between visible stems and foliage, and violet colored flowers.

**Tubers:** Round-ovoid tubers with a bright and smooth, purple colored skin. Tubers have bright white flesh with a low incidence of internal defects.

### *Agronomic Characteristics:*

**Maturity:** early mid-season (similar to Yukon Gold).

**Tubers:** Round-ovoid tubers with a bright and smooth, purple colored skin and a bright white flesh.

**Yield:** High yield under irrigated and dryland conditions.

**Specific Gravity:** About 1.070 in Michigan.

**Culinary Quality:** The Michigan Purple tubers can be used for baking, mashing, and microwave cooking and have excellent taste quality. The tuber flesh is a brilliant white with excellent internal quality and does not darken after cooking.

**Foliage:** Medium to tall, semi-erect vine.

**Diseases:** No specific disease resistance.

**Storability:** Medium dormancy comparable to Atlantic.