

# 'Whitewater' Peach

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Whitewater is a new white-fleshed, low-acid peach released in 2021 by the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture (UA). Outstanding characteristics include its attractive and flavorful fruit, firm slow-melting texture, and early ripening season. Whitewater is intended for fresh market use and is adapted to Arkansas and similar climates. The primary testing site was at the University of Arkansas Fruit Research Station (FRS), Clarksville, with additional testing at the Southwest Research and Extension Center (SWREC) in Hope, AR.

**Flavor** – Low-acid with light white peach flavor. Soluble solids comparable to comparison cultivars from UA breeding program and acidity comparable to Souvenirs.

**Color** - Attractive white flesh without red flecking or discoloration and full red blush. Average estimated blush was 86% over nine years of observation.

**Fruit size** – Average fruit size of 221g. Comparable to Souvenirs.

**Texture** – Freestone with 'slow-melting' flesh that is crisp at early ripening (which are of harvest quality) and softens when fully ripe.

**Postharvest storage potential** – Comparable to other 'slow-melting' cultivars White County and Souvenirs, which have both outperformed older commercial checks Loring and Redhaven in previous postharvest evaluations.

**Flowering date** – Average full bloom date of March 16 at FRS. Comparable to Souvenirs, but 3-7 days before other peach cultivars from the UA breeding program.

**Ripening date** – Average first harvest date of June 27 at FRS. Whitewater is the earliest ripening peach cultivar from the UA breeding program. Ripens 5-10 days before White Rock, 1-2 weeks before Souvenirs and White Cloud, 3-4 weeks before White County and White River, and 4-5 weeks before White Diamond.

**Chilling requirement** – Not determined, but probably near 800 hours below 7°C based on observations of budbreak and bloom in comparative plantings with test cultivars of known chill requirement.

**Disease Resistance** – Moderate fruit and leaf resistance to bacterial spot.

**Crop load and Vigor** - Whitewater trees budded on Guardian® rootstock received acceptable ratings for vigor and overall tree health, though bacterial canker was observed. Crop load ratings and yield were comparable to other UA program cultivars.

### LICENSING CONTACT

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### LICENSE AVAILABILITY

Non-exclusive licenses available  
in the United States on Jan 4,  
2021

### INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY STATUS

Will apply for United States Plant  
Patent



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