

## 'Saharanpur Prabhat' An Early Sweet Peach (*Prunus persica* Batsch)

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### Abstract

'Saharanpur Prabhat' is an early ripening, sweet, yellowish with pinkish blush, medium size, round, truncate in shape with pointed apex peach with good taste having good keeping quality. Its fruits ripen in the third week of April, about 4 to 6 days earlier than the 'Floridasun' which is one of its parents. The fruits are very similar to 'Floridasun' in shape. It gives good fruit yield on rootstocks such as peach (*Prunus persica* Batsch) and plum (*Prunus domestica* L.).

### Origin

'Saharanpur Prabhat' is a selection from the hybrid seedlings of the cross 'Sharbati' x 'Floridasun' raised at the Horticultural Experiment and Training Centre, Saharanpur (India). These crosses were made with a view to evolve an early, free stone, sweet, juicy, attractive blushed variety with good taste and having good keeping quality.

### Fruit Characters

'Saharanpur Prabhat' is a medium size peach (5.0 cm in length and 4.9 cm in width), round in shape, skin is thin, smooth, shining with attractive pinkish blush. Flesh is white with reddish below blushed portion. It is

soft, juicy, sweet with distinctive aromatic flavour. The T.S.S. is 12.5° (°Brix) acidity 0.36 per cent, total sugar 6.2 percent and vitamin C 12.0 mg/100 gm.

The fruit stem is short (1.0 cm) stout swollen at the place of attachment to the spur. Stem end cavity is wide and shallow with slight russeting. The calyx (eye) is usually open and is set in a deep and wide cavity with prominent ribs at the opening.

### Tree and Flower Characters

'Saharanpur Prabhat' is a healthy, vigorous, highly productive, and regular bearing plant. The variety has been evaluated for five years at the Government Garden, Saharanpur. The growth of the plant is upright with spreading or upright branches. Stem and main branches are very stout, slender, smooth and dark brown in colour. Leaves are medium to large lanceolate with wavy and slightly dentate margin. Flowers appear very early, that is in the last week of January. Flowers are medium sized, light pinkish colour and spreading at the time of opening.

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## COVER DRAWINGS

Please consider honoring an important cultivar of your fruit crop specialty by developing a cover story for *FVJ*. Contact the editor with your nomination. The intent is to develop an article that presents the history and importance of the cultivar and have a drawing made to feature it on the cover.