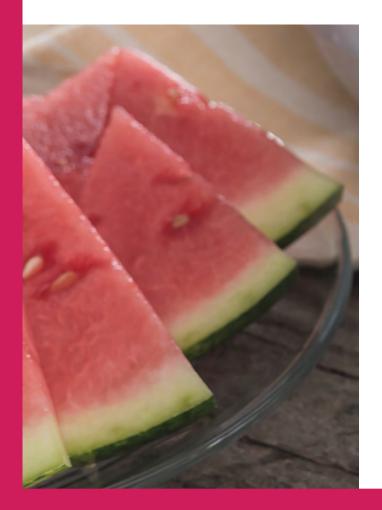
## Discover Local Melons

## Choosing the Perfect Melon

## Most ripe melons should have these characteristics:

- Smooth shell
- Evenly toned
- Firm
- Free of Bruises, cuts and dents
- Has a creamy yellow spot which indicates it rested in the soil
- Should feel heavy; they're made up of mostly water



Variety	Characteristics
Cathay Belle Watermelon	Round with green shell and green stripes. 7-10 pounds. Bright, delicious red flesh.
Charantais Melon	Creamy grayish yellow rind with green stripes. Average of 2 pounds. Sweet, juicy salmon colored flesh.
Crimson Sweet Watermelon	Tough, medium thick hard shell that is light green with darker green stripes. 20-25 pounds. Bright, deep-red flesh is bursting with lots of juice and sweetness.
Honey Dew Melon	Creamy yellow shell. Those weighing an average of 5 pounds have the best flavor. Considered the sweetest of all melons. Flesh is light green and feels slightly waxy when ripe.
Little Baby Flower Watermelon	Small, 5 1/2" round green shell with a bright stripe pattern. 2-4 pounds. Dark pink flesh is sweet and crisp.
Muskmelon	A good quality muskmelon has large webbing or netting on the shell.  Shell will have yellow/orange coloring and will be slightly soft on the stem (firm elsewhere). It should have a strong smell and the stem should have a smooth, well-rounded cavity. 4-9 pounds. Orange, juicy flesh.
New Queen Watermelon	Bright green icebox type watermelon with a substantial number of thick green stripes. 5-6 pounds. Bright orange flesh is exceptionally sweet, crisp and juicy.
Orange seeded Watermelon	Lighter green rind with darker green stripes. 8-10 pounds. Pale orange- colored flesh has a crisp, juicy texture and a mildly sweet flavor. It is less sweet than red-fleshed watermelon. Contains immature white, edible seeds.
Red seeded Watermelon	Oblong in shape with bright green shell and dark green stripes. 15-45 pounds. Tender, juicy, sweet red flesh with large brown and black seeds throughout.
Red seedless Watermelon	This is the most popular variety in the U.S. Round in shape with bright green shell and dark green stripes. 10-20 pounds. Tender, juicy, sweet red flesh with an occasional white, tender seed.
Sunshine Watermelon	Oval-round, bright green icebox type watermelon with a thin shell and dark green stripes. 8-10 pounds. Bright yellow flesh is brittle, juicy and very sweet.
Yellow Doll Watermelon	Icebox type, oval-shaped with a green striped thin rind. 5-7 pounds. Sweet sunny yellow flesh with few seeds.
Yellow Seedless	Globe-shaped medium-sized fruit with green shell and dark stripes. Average of 15 pounds. Sweet yellow flesh.

