

SuperSite Recommendations

Chile Pepper Bedding Plants... over 500 varieties from *Cross Country Nurseries*, shipping April to early June. Fresh pods ship September and early October. Go [here](#)

Chile Pepper Seeds... from all over the world from the *Chile Pepper Institute*. Go [here](#)



Malawi Birdseye Pods:
Dried (red) and fresh (green)

[Nomenclature](#)

[Botanical Description](#)

[Pungency](#)

[Cultivation](#)

[Seed Availability](#)

[Pod Usage](#)

[Note from Dr. Bosland
N.M. State University](#)

[Culinary Usage](#)

[Recipe: Shrimp Pili-Pili](#)

Nomenclature

Since many wild chiles have the word "bird" in their names, distinguishing among them can be difficult.

[Top of Page](#)

Botanical Description

Most sources state that *Capsicum* ~~*birdseye*~~ *utescens*, making it a relative of the tabasco chile. Depending on

[Top of Page](#)



Malawi Birdseye:
Immature Pods and Flowers

Pungency

Pungency can vary according to the precise variety of birdseye, averaging up to 175,000 Scoville Heat Units.

In a test of a variety provided by German chile gardener Harald Zoschke, the 'Malawi Birdseye' variety fr

[Top of Page](#)

Cultivation

It has grown wild in Africa for centuries but has been under commercial cultivation in for many years in U



Griffin International with growers of Birdseye chiles in Malawi

[Top of Page](#)

Seed Availability

Seed sources are difficult to find in the United States. It is best to do a Web search for suppliers of whole

[Top of Page](#)

Pod Usage

Because of the extremely high heat levels, most African birdseye chiles are processed into oleoresin cap

[Top of Page](#)

