

## 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)

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**Nomenclature**

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

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### Botanical Description

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

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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

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## 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

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### **Seed Availability**

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

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### **Pod Usage**

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

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