



### Topic: Eggplant Turns Bronze with Age

**Question:** Why are the skins on my eggplants bronze in color, though they don't look any different inside, or taste any different for that matter? I try to keep them well watered, and fertilized.

Mike, Iona

**Answer:** Black eggplant develops bronze color when the fruit is sun burnt because of sparse leaf cover or is over matured. Another sign of an over mature fruit is the bronzing of the seeds. Consider picking the fruits earlier in the season.



### Useful Links

[Stephen's Webpage](#)

Stephen Brown is a horticulture agent with the Lee County Extension Service. Submit questions by calling the horticulture desk at 533-7504 between 9 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. or by e-mailing [brownsh@leegov.com](mailto:brownsh@leegov.com). Visit his Web page at <http://lee.ifas.ufl.edu/hort/GardenHome.shtml>. For native plants click on Publications A-Z.

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