



## **PERSIMMONS**

- Persimmons are a good source of vitamin A. Vitamin A helps maintain good vision, fights infections, and keeps skin healthy.
- In Asia, persimmons have been cultivated for thousands of years.
- The persimmon is Japan's national fruit.
- The art of hoshigaki dried persimmons is an important part of traditional Japanese New Year's celebrations.









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## **SCIENCE: Compare and Contrast**

The most commonly sold persimmons in California are the Japanese cultivars Fuyu and Hachiya. They have a lot in common, but it's important to know the difference to avoid a bad tasting experience.

Fuyu	Hachiya	Ways they are similar
Tomato Shaped	Acorn Shaped	Fruit
Non-astringent	Astringent when unripe - will make mouth pucker	Brought to California from Japan
Has firm skin even when ripe	Soft and jelly-like when ripe	In season during the fall
Can be eaten firm or soft	Must be eaten soft	Grow on trees
Light orange color when ripe	Deep red-orange color when ripe	Good source of vitamins and minerals



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