

# StrainBase™

## *A Compendium of Cannabis Varieties*

v. 1.1, part 4  
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## ***African Strains***

### **Durban Strains**

#### ***Durban***

Mostly Sativa

Origin: South Africa

Breeder: Sensi Seed Bank

“A very early strain from South Africa. Durban is a compact Sativa with a sweet aroma and an up high. One of the most reliable early outdoor varieties, it will produce chunky, solid buds even during the worst season. If you haven't tried Durban, you are missing out on one of the easiest-to-grow, highest-quality early varieties in the world.

Finishing: end of Sept.

Height: 1.5 - 2.5 m.

Yield: up to 400 gr.” - Sensi Seed Bank Catalog 1995

"I grew Sensi's Durban this year and it has the anise flavor (dry tokes) and it is very sweet/fruity smelling. You get a relaxed body high with a mild mind high. It is worthy grow for personal stash, but definitely not for commercial purposes, low yield. Many of my friends who are indica smokers liked the high of the Durban. They said they could still function, but felt high." -Mota

"2 many males+2 little potency+2 small a yield = on sale baby"-toker2

#### ***Durban Poison***

Mostly Sativa

Origin: South Africa

Breeder: Dutch Passion Seedbank

"Imported from South Africa, produced in Holland. Exclusively inbred, never hybridized, 100% Sativa. Large long bud leaves, buds are also large and long with lots of resin. A sweet licorice or anise flavor. "Up" high similar to Thai. High yields. Well suited for out crossing with late bloomers to produce earlier flowering. Also does very well under artificial light.

Specifications: ~ Flower: 8-9 weeks ~ Harvest: end of Sept." – Dutch Passion catalog

"South African (called Durban Poison by some) is the most inconsistent or, more accurately, has the most strikingly different varieties of all marijuana originating from a single country... If you come across what is called South African or Durban Poison in the US, quite probably it originated from stock developed in the 1970's by breeders in the San Francisco Bay area....The unnamed breeder had two primary concerns-high potency and early flowering-and he succeeded wonderfully with both goals. This stock is perfect for the indoor gardener no matter what the growing conditions. This Durban Poison strain has broad leaf blades almost like Afghani but long internodes like sativas. Stigmas may be pure white, red, pink, or a delicate purple. Branches grow with differing lengths like Thai, and the profile may be from an eight foot ovoid down to a four-foot squat bush. This Durban is fast-growing, hardy, very early to mature, very potent, tastily sweet or spicy, and fragrant. What more could a grower ask?"-Mel Frank

"M3 Pinetown Durban South Africa Sativa. Known also as Durban Poison. A great high, similar to Thai. One of the earliest maturing original Sativa's. Very suitable for making hybrid crosses. In Holland it flowers the second or third week of September (Outdoors). Taste is sweet. \$45 for 15. (Suitable for indoors/outdoors)" -From the Super Sativa Seed Club Catalog 1987/1989

"I was reading that a certain durban sold from a breeder is superior to the others sold from other breeders. No, Sensi is not the superior Durban (I think). Ask around, and make sure you buy the best strain of Durban. It is renowned for it's early flowering characteristic, it can go outdoors or indoors, and it offers the up sativa high in a fast flowerer. It is also very stable, so you can easily breed your own seed."-Big Bong

"I bought some HBC durban (dutch passion) last winter and grew a very nice crop of their durban 1/2 indoor and finished outdoor by mid-spring. a friend gave me 6 of his S.S.B. durban and i grew them out this summer and harvested about 4 weeks ago. both company's durban grew very similar but the HBC durban is wayyyy better. better taste and buzz anyway. even the aroma during growth was different. in my opinion, go with Dutch Passion's version and stay away from Sensi's on this one. I have nothing at all against Sensi Seed Bank but i and others who have sampled both ssb's version and dutch passion's version agree that D.P.'s is much much better. both were grown in the same soil (except for the partial indoor life under 1000k hps along with 500k mh with the d.p. durban) and all other possible grow conditions differences were eliminated. i.e. ....they grew under very similar conditions. s.s.b. is still at or near the top of seedbanks in my book but they kinda missed with this one. this, of course, is mostly just MHO but others agree too and maybe the ones who know what i'm talking about and hang here will put in their 2 cents worth before someone orders and is unhappy a few months down the road." -durban grower

"The trick is to not allow too much upward growth- on node 7 or 8, pinch out. Take the bottom 2 branches off. You should be left with about 6 branches which will rapidly bush out to form a 'goblet' shape. These branches will, in turn, produce branches growing into centre of plant. These secondary branches should be cut back to about 3 or 4 nodes on the same day that flowering is started. Durban starts to flower very rapidly- you should see signs within a week. After about 10- 14 days, pinch main branch-tips off. These will have shot upwards to form a crown that will now fill out into colas. Final plant should be just over 2 foot from seed or 1.5 foot from cutting. High is totally unbelievable- its like

the first time you got stoned, but better- its clean, spacey, cerebral and euphoric. Yield is average, nothing a cash-cropper would be impressed about but for personal its fine."-Norwegian Wood

"Mel Frank says that he knows the breeder in California that developed Durban Poison, and that it came from 2 females out of 16 grown from 1 variety out of six that came from South Africa. Only those two plants were worth a damn. What he doesn't say is that there must have been some other plants in the mix; a male, eh? He notes that genetics among growers in SA were already all jumbled up from the sources they had to draw on, so the claims that Durban is a pure sativa have to be taken with a grain of salt." - SCW

"I'm trying some Durban from Aloha out right now in SOG. I've harvested a small test clone from the female and it was good quality so I have a little sea of her going now.. 4 per foot in organics, mostly castings. She stretched more than I wanted or expected under the 1K Agrosun MH, I was aiming for 2 foot high at finish but will probably hit 2.5. You can train and prune and tie her all over but it won't change the node spacing which makes for the lankiness. Budding them around 6 to 8 inches, or 5 days of veg is about where I'd do it next time. The yield should be good, not great.. it won't be huge like a good indica, but weight has more to do with flowering times and amount of resin (how many cycles per year can you get, and resin weighs alot). I have no idea if these plants are even distant relatives of the seeds you might get." - ~shabang~

"I messed around with Durban in a 24" sog setup, and it just wouldn't work, but I did have one plant that stayed fairly short, so I cloned it for a mother and put it aside for some months. Recently I switched to scrog, and thought of the Durban, so I cloned it up and ran 5 of them under the screen in a 2 x 2' space with a 220 HPS conversion bulb. The Durban wanted to run a bit, but that was OK with the screen method. What I have now is a number of 4-8" flower spikes about the size of large cigars, and there has been no vertical stretching for a couple of weeks. I think it will mature nicely, which is good, as Durban is our #1 favorite day smoke. A bit spindly, yes, but I can live with that; this is not for production, just personal smoke. The moral may be that Durban can work in some inside environments, or maybe just the right Durban. Like I say, so far, so good.

It's 1 foot to the scrog screen and that gives me another foot until the tops are too close to the light. I may raise the screen a bit next time, as the longest Durban bud is 8 inches. I let the Durban grow until it nearly filled up the scrog screen (not exactly a scientific process), and that took about 3-4 weeks from the rooted clones. Sorry, I don't keep a log book or anything like that, so I'm guessing to some extent.

From the time the lights went to 12 hours, the Durban looks to finish about 8 weeks. That's sooner than I thought, and I'm basing it on the proportion of white to brown hairs, never actually having Durban go all the way. Outside I had to harvest it early due to mold. I think I'll let it go two more weeks, while I'm away on vacation, to see if it puts on some weight, which will be about 9 weeks from lights out. The sweet indica being grown in the same air chamber is already dead ripe.

One thing about Durban; it's very prone to mold. I recommend denuding all the stalks beneath the screen and using a fan to provide air flow to that area. I lost several stalks to mold before I opened up the dead space.

Oh, and one last thing. Remember, I tried Durban sog last year, and it sucked. I had to pull them all out and start over. It was just this one Durban that seemed to have the potential to stay small that I saved, and it turns out to be ideally suited to scrog. I can't promise other Durbans will work out." -cha cal

"I grew out sensi durban. Potency on a 1 to 10 a solid four. Very pretty plant but not practical to grow. And too many males. No soaring sativa high."-seedydive

"I've just grown out the durban from sensi....this seed came in original sensi packaging but it was bought when sensi had the buy 1 get 1 free sale going on....I've never grown any other "brand" of durban so I can't compare...potency is the biggest disappointment from what I've had. early maturity was nice, coming in at Sept 20th....the high did not pick me "up"...a mild sativa high..."-straydog

"I grew Dutch Passion's version. It's not worth paying for. From what I hear, the Sensi isn't much better. That is if you're looking for a pure sativa with an anise flavour. My plants looked like tall indicas. I'm not saying that the plants were absolute crap, just that they were not worth the \$11 a seed I paid. Paying \$28.50 per blueberry seeds had more value. They were good enough and uniform enough that I've selected the non hermie plants to create backup seed before I dump the lot.

I think the wild bank in Africa would be the best source. With any luck, I'll have some coming in the mail any day. I saw some pics of traditional durban leaves at lyceum. Dutch Passion's were not close."  
-Vic High

"Today I tasted some Durban Poison for the first time. The plant was not mature yet, all pistils still white on day 60 of 12/12. Durban has a very clear energetic high for me with almost no body. About 90% head, 10% or less body. The aroma is sweet, like tai. It looks a bit like tai also, but much fluffier and less size to the calyxes. It is fun to talk on, go out in public, and energetic. I can see now why many old-timers like it. Personally it is a nightmare in ScrOG/indoors and I would not recommend the physical characteristics. It stretches like crazy, and the buds are very fluffy and airy. the colas also fall over before they finish. the colas continue to stretch well into the 2nd month of bloom. I do not know why it is touted as an early variety. The head is great, but I think a cross to Skunk to increase density and resin is in order." - Splif Lipsit

### ***Durban Poison X Mighty Might***

Sativa/Indica mix

Origin: British Columbia

Breeder: Federation Seedbank

"Better outdoors than Durban alone, yet a better yield than Mighty Might alone. A classic.

Specifications: (indoors) ~ Flower: 60-65 days ~ Height: 110-140 cm ~ Yield: 300-325 gr/sqM  
(outdoors) ~ Plant: Jun. 1<sup>st</sup> ~ Finish: Sept. 8-15<sup>th</sup> ~ Height: 5-6' ~ Yield: 3-4 oz" – Heavens Stairway catalog

### ***Durban X Skunk***

Mostly Sativa

Origin: Holland

Breeder: Positronics Seedbank

"Origin: South Africa and California

Type: F1 hybrid

Composition: 12.5 % indica, 87.5% sativa

Flowering-Time: 8-10 weeks

Environment: Fit for inside, outside, and greenhouse cultivation

Appearance: The plant has long, sticky buds and many branches

Smell/Taste: High, soft taste

Height: Medium tall

Yield: 200-500 gr.

Harvest-Time: ± 10 October” – Positronics seedbank catalog

"Very simple pedigree: its an F1 cross of two stable strains: durban poison and skunk (probably skunk#1). Its not the most potent strain ever, but it is nice. Durban gives a good flavour to this plant (durban has a slight taste of aniseed, coffee or liquorice), which grows slightly larger than average skunk (but can still be cropped at under 2ft easily), plant tends towards a bush (no single stem shit here), buds are firm, very resinous and pungent. Yield is lower than many indicas, but quite respectable compared to most sativas. The reason for the cross was that durban is considered by many to be a bitch to grow, with a resultant lower yield than ideal, so some of D's worst traits (height, yield, variation in high, hermaphrodite tendencies & cutting prob's) have been moderated by crossing to skunk. I wouldn't grow it outside. If I liked skunky weed (purely a matter of personal taste), then this would be a plant I would grow first off, along with Kerala skunk (similar, but from southern india, slightly more trippy). I think on the hole, a good plant. "- durban

## ***Durban/Thai***

Mostly Sativa

Origin: South Africa/Thailand

Breeder: S.S.S.C.

Durban-Thai Highflyer/ S.S.S.C.

"M8 A Thai strain inbred for 4 generations crossed with our Durban South Africa sativa. Very sweet resinous buds. The high is very strong and up. One of our own favorites. Harvest outdoors: the second week of Oct. Suitable for indoor growing as well. \$55 for 15" - / S.S.S.C. seedbank catalog 1980s

"I recently got my hands on seeds from my FAVOURITE SSSC strain - Durban/Thai. I have 5 healthy seedlings going as we speak (5/7 germed from 11-year-old seeds). I grew a whole room full of these babies about ten years ago and they were SO KILLER, with the kind of SICKLY-SWEET, DANK scent and flavour that makes your mouth water...so resinous that the joint would be BROWN by the time you'd smoked HALF of it. It had this "evil" scent like rotten meat when you broke up a bud. I'm going to be crossing Durban/Thai with a Haze hybrid I'm developing over the course of 1999. I'm really excited about this project!" - MrSoul

## **Malawi**

Sativa

Origin: Lake Malawi, Tanzania

"Malawi is the spiciest smoke I've ever had. I used to have this thing that happened a few times as a teenager where I'd get some killer smoke from AFOAF that would literally make me blind for 20 minutes to a half hour within 10 minutes of smoking it, a little too much too quick. Malawi is that kind of smoke. Its like your still there but vision changes to lights and shadows and sounds become muted. You will see flashes of light and things in your peripheral vision will catch your eyes. The high was fast without all the physical sensations of the indicas. Darkest leaves I've ever seen, almost look black. I pulled em at 75 days

with 20-30% could have went another month to round out the buzz. Yield was similar to Durban, not much but worth the wait if that's what you like. For me it's the kind of smoke you'd take out to get a reaction and they will vary, it's too much if overdone." - Frank

"AFOAF grew hers out when Greenthumb first brought them out last year. Leaves were enormous and the darkest green(looked black) I've ever seen. Took em unfinished at 85 days(20% turned). This is definitely personal head stash and one to take out for special occasion. The high was like tripping for me, lots of visual effects and somewhat short lived. I made the mistake of smoking an indica shortly after coming down from the Malawi and I couldn't move for a couple of hours. Can be a typical unruly sativa to grow requiring lots of attention. Worth the effort if that's what you're looking for, I prefer a more rounded and much mellower buzz." - Frank

### ***Malawi Gold***

Mostly sativa

Origin: Lake Malawi, Tanzania

Breeder: High Life Seeds

"Outdoors Summer Report: This baby definitely has Sativa in its genes. 6 feet and will probably add another foot before its done. Big Christmas tree type plant. Buds are bursting out from every possible node! Even the lower branches are putting on bud weight! Awesome....only wish I had a Tropical sun."  
-Sensi

## **Power Plant**

Mostly Sativa

Origin: South Africa

Breeder: Dutch Passion Seedbank

Power Plant (mostly Sativa) was developed in 1997 from new South African genetics. This strain has been inbred only, never hybridized. Very rich in THC. It is a strain with an enormous grow potential. Indoor as well as in a greenhouse the plants have an enormous yield. Indoors flowering starts already one week after turning back the light cycle to 12 hours. Outdoor flowering starts late, but the plants ripen very fast. This variety is very uniform. Strong "up high", very soft smoke.

Specifications: ~ Flower: 8 weeks ~ Harvest: 2<sup>nd</sup> week of Oct." – Dutch Passion catalog

"I grew one Power Plant outdoors at the 39th. The seed was germinated on July 1st, and finished on Sept. 24 at 15 inches tall. I was quite happy with both the potency and yield. If it had been a tall, full season plant; the yield probably would have been enormous. The plant grew more like an indica then I expected, but had a very good, long lasting sativa up high to it. Unfortunately, I lost all the other seedlings, and failed to regenerate the mother after harvest. I did, however, get a few seeds from crossing her with a Thai male, but that hybrid won't grow outdoors in my area. It seemed to me that power plant was exactly like the description at H.S. said it was, except the plant finished 2 weeks earlier, and looked about half indica. I wish I had more of it." – 67ed

"Let me preface this by stating I have 8 yrs of gardening experience. I found that it was a bit temperamental to start the seedlings. Of the 6 of ten that survived = 1 tall male, 1 short male, 1 tall female ( with slight but controllable hermie traits ) 1 short total female and 2 very hermie "females". And even though it s

described as a indoor/ greenhouse stock it can become a big plant very quickly with some plants exhibiting the typical sativa structure. The 1 short female looks like it will produce well even though I only used an 8 in. pot for the trial run.

The harvest is about 2 weeks away so more detailed info at that time. It is a fairly branchy plant and might do well in a ScrOG set up. If the result is of high quality , I will devote a hydro farm unit to it the next go round to see how the totals compare to the much more indica stock that is most of the room, maybe just as personal stash. Now I will not say that I am beyond mistakes but I had very bad survival rates with the first batch in peat pellets and much better results the second germination round using oasis cubes instead of peat pellets. The seeds are very small and produce very small seedlings that need a little more pampering than more robust seedlings. Of course there are always new things to learn when working with a new stock.” – Rippo

“Hermies tendency, not rich in resin, medium in power and shit to grow.” – elman

“I had a good experience growing power plant outdoors. I only grew one female so I can't say about uniformity. I was surprised that it appeared mostly indica, but for me, the high was up, visual, and a little bit soaring too. Also, it finished two weeks before(Sept 23) the description said it would.” – 67ed

“Power plant was very hermy and might do for outside or green house but IMO not good for indoor. The high was good and uppy but not "soaring". I have dropped it from this next go round.”

## Swazi

Sativa

Origin: Swaziland, Africa

Breeder: Positronics

“Imported: Swaziland, Africa

Pure breeding: never outcrossed

Sativa/Indica: pure sativa

Appearance: very large resin covered bracts, seeded or not; long slender buds, very low leaf-to-flower ratio

Smell/taste: exotic taste, nice smell

Type high/strength: strong, fairly clear

Height: 2-3m

Yield: very high

Harvest date (Netherlands natural photoperiod): end Nov

12hr day exposure harvest (# of weeks): 9-14

Indoor / greenhouse / outdoor

Seems more mold resistant than other varieties.” – Positronics seedbank catalog

"Swazi: For outdoor growers we now have the famous Swazi, know for early flowering, disease resistance, very sweet sativa taste and high. A truly unique variety from Swaziland South Africa.

Outdoor height: 7-9 ft.

Outdoor yield average: 1 lb.

Finish date: Sept. 15 at 40 degrees latitude." – High Quality Seeds catalog

"I looked in both of my SSSC catalogs (1987-88, 1989-90) and they did not offer a SWAZI strain. The only South African strain that they listed was a PineTown Durban Poison (M3). As for item # M5. It doesn't exist in my catalogs. Their listings are M1 Napali, M2 Manilla Fillipino, M3 Durban, and M6 Indica-creeper hybrid. I then checked out my Original Seed Bank catalogs from the same time period. Nevil offered a Swazi strain (pure) for the first time in Nov. of 1987. It is listed again in his 1988 catalog. By 1989, Swazi (pure) is no longer being offered. (One Swazi hybrid that was introduced in 1988, is still listed in his 89 catalog, HashPlant/NL#1 X SWAZI)." – Prince Caspian

### **Swazi X Skunk**

Mostly Sativa

Origin: Holland

Breeder: Dutch Passion Seedbank

100% Sativa crossbred with a Dutch Skunk. This is a real bargain, slow but well worth the wait. Exotic taste, strong high.

Specifications: ~ Flower: 9-14 weeks

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