

HB 2644  
Sandhill Plum for Kansas State Fruit  
House Federal and State Affairs Committee  
Olivia Savaria  
Proponent

Thank you, President Barker, for reopening Bill 2644. My name is Olivia Savaria. I am from Massachusetts, and I just recently moved here with my family and am evangelizing all around the US. I am attending Valley Falls Elementary School and was interested to learn of this project. I am excited to see Kansas have its first ever State Fruit. I am here to hopefully persuade you to make the Sandhill Plum the official Kansas State Fruit.

The state fruit of Kansas should be the Sandhill Plum because it is widespread and common throughout the state.

The sandhill plum is also native to the western regions of Kansas. According to the Kansas Forest Service, Sandhill Plum or Chickasaw Plum has multiple uses such as Water Erosion Control, Windbreaks, and is home to many wildlife creatures. It is also used for jams, jellies, and wines sold all over Kansas.

According to my research, apples, apricots and peaches are somewhat drought tolerant (which must be considered in this climate); however, The Sandhill Plum can tolerate drought better than most fruits grown in Kansas.

I think that the Sandhill Plum would be very suitable representation of Kansas produce. I, personally, am new to Kansas, but I am looking forward to seeing this Bill pass. Perhaps we would see more people planting the Sandhill Plum.