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Pumpkin Cultivar Performance Trial Grown in Southern Ohio 2016

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Objectives

To screen new pumpkin variety releases for their production performance under Southern Ohio growing conditions and to evaluate yield potential and fruit quality characteristics for the southern Ohio area.

Materials and Methods

This trial evaluated 70 pumpkin cultivars for their production suitability, performance and quality attributes under southern Ohio growing conditions. Cultivar selections were new releases along with industry standard varieties. Input was received from seed companies, growers, and industry personnel regarding variety selection and standard comparison. Seeds were direct seeded by hand to the field on June 21st. Rows were spaced 10 feet apart with seeds planted 3 feet apart in the row. The trial was located in southern Ohio, at the Ohio State University South Centers field research trials in Piketon, Ohio (lat. 39.07° N, long. 83.01° W, elevation 578 ft.). 100 pounds of N, P2O5 and K2O per acre were applied prior to planting. A standard commercial fungicide and insecticide program was implemented, following recommendations from the Midwest Vegetable Production Guide for Commercial Growers (ID-56). Weeds were controlled with a pre-emerge application of Strategy herbicide, cultivation and hand hoeing.

Results and Discussion

Overall plant and fruit quality was good in the 2016 season. Fruit were harvested on October 3rd.

Though seed companies have suggested plant spacing for particular varieties, i.e. bush, semi-bush, vining types, for this research trial a standard plant population of 1,452 plants per acre was followed and yields are based on these populations. Growers are advised to follow seed company plant population recommendations.

We wish to thank the Ohio Vegetable and Small Fruit Research and Development Program for their past support and seed companies for their in kind contributions to conduct this field research.

Table 1: Gourds

Variety	Pounds per Plant	Fruit per Acre	Pounds Per Acre	Average Fruit Weight (lbs.)	Seed Source
Crunchkin	6.31	15972.00	9165.02	0.54	HM
Munchkin	4.03	2904.00	5857.37	0.37	HM
Lil' Pump-Ke-Mon	1.59	16843.20	2314.49	0.80	RU
Small Warded Professional	9.51	32234.40	13811.42	0.43	HL
Jill Be Little	14.01	45012.00	20339.62	0.45	HL
Harrowsmith Select	20.85	46464.00	30280.01	0.65	JS
Daisy Gourd	11.21	55466.40	16279.82	0.29	JS
Gizmo Gourd	8.89	11035.20	12914.09	1.17	RU
Casperita	10.75	20037.60	15606.10	0.78	SW
Autumn Wings Small	7.09	18004.80	10288.87	0.57	RU
Galaxy of Stars	10.53	43269.60	15289.56	0.35	ST

Table 2: Jack O Lantern Pumpkins

Variety	Pounds per Plant	Fruit per Acre	Pounds per Acre	Average Fruit Weight (lbs.)	Seed Source
P17599	18.49	2904.00	26841.67	9.24	AC
P17606	8.12	1452.00	11796.05	8.12	AC
Early Giant	21.03	1161.60	30535.56	26.29	AC
Dependable	34.45	2323.20	50021.40	21.53	AC
Early King	13.25	1452.00	19241.90	13.25	AC
Bellatrix	28.52	2904.00	41413.94	14.26	EZ
Magic Lantern	40.46	4646.40	58753.73	12.65	HM
Magic Wand	22.61	2904.00	32826.82	11.30	HM
HMX 4680	13.32	2613.60	19343.54	7.40	HM
Ares	14.00	1452.00	20333.81	14.00	HM
Kratos	15.02	1742.40	21809.04	12.52	HM
Rhea	15.60	2323.20	22651.20	9.75	HM
Cronus	24.58	1452.00	35690.16	24.58	HM
Mustang	27.47	2323.20	39883.54	17.17	HL
Racer	31.85	5227.20	46243.30	8.85	JS
Cargo	30.66	2323.20	44512.51	19.16	JS
Champion	30.46	2323.20	44233.73	19.04	JS
JPN 61560	23.61	1742.40	34278.82	19.67	JS
Big Doris	23.24	2032.80	33738.67	16.60	RI
Eagle City Gold	28.01	4356.00	40664.71	9.34	RU
Hijinks	15.99	5227.20	23223.29	4.44	SK
Cracker Jack	19.79	2904.00	28732.18	9.89	SK
Earlipak	25.46	2613.60	36967.92	14.14	SK
Diablo	21.50	2613.60	31218.00	11.94	SK
Hulk	34.77	2613.60	50486.04	19.32	SK
Zeus	12.93	2032.80	18768.55	9.23	RI
Orange Rave	55.06	7260.00	79947.12	11.01	SW
Spartan	19.85	2323.20	28822.20	12.41	SW

Table 3: Pie Pumpkins

Variety	Pounds per Plant	Fruit per Acre	Pounds per Acre	Average Fruit Weight (lbs.)	Seed Source
Early Abundance	5.70	2613.60	8276.40	3.17	AC
Field Trip	24.39	9292.80	35408.47	3.81	HM
Mystic Plus	14.07	6098.40	20432.54	3.35	HM
Little Giant	8.30	5227.20	12057.41	2.31	HM
Sunlight	12.85	5227.20	18664.01	3.57	JS
Snowball	39.02	24103.20	56662.85	2.35	JS
RPX 5956	26.24	3775.20	38100.48	10.09	RU
Touch of Autumn	14.82	11325.60	21521.54	1.90	SW
Kandy Korn Plus	6.18	9873.60	8979.17	0.75	SW
Jack Sprat	12.10	8712.00	17569.20	1.78	SK
Fall Splendor	23.05	11906.40	33471.50	3.84	SK
Tiffany	20.68	9583.20	30021.55	3.13	SW
Apprentice	9.34	16843.20	13561.68	0.81	HM

Table 4: Specialty Pumpkins

Variety	Pounds per Plant	Fruit per Acre	Pounds per Acre	Average Fruit Weight (lbs.)	Seed Source
Warty Goblin	23.74	2904.00	34470.48	11.87	HM
New Moon	76.39	2904.00	110918.28	38.20	HL
Polar Bear	52.21	2323.20	75808.92	32.63	JS
Flat White Boer	46.51	5227.20	67529.62	12.92	RI
Fairytale	14.09	1161.60	20455.78	17.61	RI
Sirius Star	14.72	13648.80	21376.34	1.57	RU
One Too Many	18.28	1742.40	26545.46	15.24	RU
Red Warty Thing	18.60	2613.60	27004.30	10.33	RU
Blue Doll	50.11	4646.40	72765.53	15.66	RU
Cotton Candy	8.16	2323.20	11842.51	5.10	RU
Jarradale	27.24	4646.40	39546.67	8.51	SW
Speckled Hound	41.92	12777.60	60864.94	4.76	SW
Autumn Buckskin	58.44	6969.60	84857.78	12.18	SW
Grey Ghost	50.95	9292.80	73982.30	7.96	SW
Cinderella's Carriage	24.69	2613.60	35852.78	13.72	ST
Moonshine	23.88	6098.40	34676.66	5.69	ST
Jewel Box	38.68	3484.80	56166.26	16.12	SW
Peanut	33.05	3484.80	47994.41	13.77	SW