

2014

All-America Selections® Vegetable Trial

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All-America Selections® Vegetable Trial

Abstract

All-America Selections® (AAS) is an independent, non-profit organization established in 1932 by industry leaders to organize and oversee unbiased evaluations of new, soon to be released, flower and vegetable varieties. The goal of the AAS is to identify superior home garden varieties through a national network of trial grounds and promote the tested winners as All- America Selections®. There are currently 25 AAS vegetable trial sites across the country hosted by universities, seed companies, and other public institutions. The AAS requires all trial sites to have a knowledgeable judge to evaluate entrants in blind tests (seed sources are unknown to judges) on several traits including earliness, yield, taste, disease resistance, and shelf life.

Disciplines

Agricultural Science | Agriculture

All-America Selections® Vegetable Trial

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Vince Lawson, farm superintendent

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The 2013 AAS Vegetable Trial included 21 entrants that were each evaluated in comparison plots with two or three similar varieties already on the market. Table 1 provides a short description of each AAS entrant and score awarded. Trial scores were sent to the AAS Selection Committee in September, who then compiled the ratings from all locations to decide which entries, if any, would receive AAS Awards.

All-America Selections® has announced four vegetable award winners in 2014: Chef's Choice Orange beefsteak tomato (trialed as 13V19); Fantastico compact grape tomato (trialed as 12V15); Mama Mia Giallo yellow sweet pepper (trialed as 13V14); and Mascotte compact bush bean (trialed as 12V02). For more information about these and other AAS Winners with pictures and full descriptions, visit www.aaswinners.com.

Table 1. The 2013 AAS vegetable trial entries, descriptions, and scores.

Entry	Description and comments	Trial Score ^a
13V01 Bean climbing filet	Climbing plant with long filet beans	X
13V02 Bean pole	Pole bean type with purple and yellow romano pods	3
13V04 Brussels sprouts	Brussels sprouts were very slow growing	1
13V05 Cabbage pointed	Pointed head cabbage with light green leaves	2
13V06 Cucumber gherkin	Semi-bush plant with small cucumbers	2
13V07 Cucumber slicing	Semi-bush plant with dark skinned slicing cucumbers	2
13V08 Eggplant compact	Compact plant bore small glossy dark purple fruit	1
13V09 Lettuce green leaf	Bright green serrated leaf lettuce	3
13V10 Okra rainbow	Ornamental multi-colored okra	1
13V11 Pak choi	Compact plant with thick white petioles and dark green leaves	1
13V12 Pepper dark chili	Tall pepper plant with dark green smooth fruit	1
13V13 Pepper early chili	Early maturing chili with small fruit	1
13V14 Pepper marconi yellow	Large sweet yellow peppers	2
13V15 Pepper red hot	Pungent 6 in. long deep red fruit	1
13V16 Radish	Bright red radish with white flesh and strong radish flavor	1
13V17 Snap pea multi-color	Ornamental blend of green yellow and purple pods	X
13V18 Squash butternut white	Butternut squash with white skin and orange flesh	1
13V19 Tomato orange beef	Large tomato plant with orange colored beefsteak tomatoes	2
13V20 Tomato round	Compact plant with good yield of 6 oz round tomatoes	2
13V21 Watermelon compact	Compact bushy plant producing 20 lb striped fruit	3
13V22 Zucchini yellow	Zucchini fruit had thin creamy yellow skin	1

^aTrial score: 0=entry did not meet claims/inferior to comparisons, 1=some merit but no award, 2=improved entry, merits an award, 3=superior entry worthy of award, N=not adapted, X= trial failure.