



2000 THORNLESS BLACKBERRY CULTIVAR EVALUATION FOR SOUTHERN OHIO

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This thornless blackberry cultivar trial has compared four cultivars using 4 replications of each cultivar since the trial was planted in 1992. Objectives are to evaluate potential cultivars of Thornless Blackberries for their suitability in a southern Ohio growing season. The plots were located at the Ohio State University Piketon Research & Extension Center in Piketon, Ohio. Data was analyzed by SAS statistical software.

METHODS

Planting: Bare root dormant canes and tissue cultured plants were field planted on July 30, 1992 by hand.

Spacing: Rows were 12 feet apart, with plants set on level beds 8 feet spacing between each plant in the row. The beds have drip tube irrigation with 4 plants per plot (5' x 32') provided a plant density of approximately 453 plants per acre.

Soil Type: Doles Silt Loam

Fertilizer: Plants were fertilized using Calcium Nitrate (15.5%N) at a rate of 150 lbs./acre. Fertilizer was applied by hand on April 19, 2000 and again on May 16, 2000.

Weed Control: Applied pre-emergent herbicide; Sinbar @ 4 qts./acre and Princep 90 @ 4.4 lbs./acre and Round-up Ultra @ 3 oz./gallon water using a hand sprayer on March 24, 2000.

Pest Management: Lime sulfur was applied using an air-blast sprayer at the rate of 5 gallons/acre in 100 gallons of water/acre on March 22, 2000. Applied Sevin at 2 quarts/acre plus Benlate at 12 ounces/acre using a 3-point tractor mounted Air Blast sprayer on May 26, 2000 and June 16, 2000. Applied Sevin 80S @ 1.25 lbs./acre and Captan @ 5 lbs./acre using the Air Blast sprayer on June 30, 2000. Applied Ferbam @ 3 lbs./acre using the air-blast sprayer on November 2, 2000. Electrified fence is installed around the perimeter of the field to reduce deer damage to the plants.

Irrigation: Trickle irrigated on 5/11, 5/16, 5/26, 7/26, 8/14, 8/22, and 9/20.

Harvests: (7 total harvests) 7/11, 7/28, 8/1, 8/4, 8/9, 8/14 8/21, and 8/31.

RESULTS

Table 1. Yields and Quality comparisons from replicated Thornless Blackberry cultivar trials in southern

Ohio: Ohio State University Piketon Research & Extension Center, Piketon, Ohio 2000

2000 THORNLESS BLACKBERRY VARIETY TRIAL						
Variety	lbs/acre of Marketable Fruit	Total Weight of Market Fruit (lbs)	Average Marketable Fruit Weight (oz)	lbs/acre of Cull Fruit	Total Weight of Culls (lbs)	Average Cull Fruit Weight (oz)
C-65	1463	12.87	0.209873	484.2	4.261	0.15746
Chester	9671	85.1	0.170098	1803.3	15.869	0.1145
Hull	1604	14.12	0.164856	566.1	4.981	0.11845
Navaho	548	4.82	0.14987	114.6	1.009	0.10178
LSD	7879.2	69.337	0.022	393.59	3.4636	0.0633

Table 2. Rainfall amounts and average high and low temperatures for the 2000 season: Ohio State

University Extension Piketon Research & Extension Center, Piketon, Ohio 2000

2000 PIKETON WEATHER SUMMARY						

	Average High Temperature	Average Temperature	Normal Average Temperature	Average Low Temperature	Total Precipitation	Normal Precipitation
January	40.20	30.00	30.80	18.80	2.51	3.10
February	52.20	40.80	33.00	30.20	4.95	2.10
March	59.20	47.30	41.90	34.60	3.03	4.50
April	65.50	53.30	52.60	41.10	2.34	3.20
May	77.90	66.10	61.70	53.10	0.56	4.50
June	82.90	71.50	72.40	60.50	0.06	3.90
July	82.30	71.60	75.90	61.30	3.35	4.00
August	82.30	71.30	74.10	60.10	2.37	2.70
September	75.20	63.60	65.10	53.90	3.95	1.90
October	71.20	55.80	54.20	43.30	1.13	1.90
November	51.90	41.50	42.60	31.30	1.01	3.00
December	34.40	25.70	36.20	17.80	2.84	2.10
2000 Averages	64.60	53.21	53.38	42.17	2.34	3.08