

EVALUATION OF WATERMELON CULTIVARS FOR SOUTHERN OHIO, 2006

*Brad R. Bergefurd, Thomas Harker, Dr. Shawn Wright
The Ohio State University South Centers
1864 Shyville Road, Piketon, Ohio 45661-9749
Phone: (740) 289-2071

This cultivar trial evaluated 8 cultivars for their suitability in southern Ohio.

METHODS:

Seeds were planted May 11th in the greenhouse. Transplants were transplanted to the field on June 9th using a waterwheel transplanter onto raised beds covered with black plastic mulch with trickle irrigation. Plots rows were 6 foot apart. Experimental design was randomized complete block with 3 replications. 100 units of N, P and K were applied before forming beds and laying plastic mulch. A standard commercial fungicide and insecticide program was followed, following OSU Bulletin #672.

RESULTS:

There was no statistically significant difference for either fruit number per acre or pounds per acre for any of the varieties (Table 1). There was a statistically significant difference for average fruit weight. (Table 2).

Table 1.

Variety	Fruit per acre	Pounds per acre
Matrix	15812	65376
SP1	22911	24354
Dario	17102	54130
Tri X Triple Threat	16457	50104
Topgun	13553	66632
Sweet Delight	13875	60148
Tri X 313	17425	75762
Tri X Palomar	18070	64323

Table 2. t-Tests for Average weight* (Least Significant Difference 2.4)

t	Grouping	Mean	Treatment
	A	20.5	Topgun
	B	17.5	Sweet Delight
	B	17.3	Tri X 313
C	B	16.4	Matrix
C			
C	D	14.1	Tri X Palomar
	D	12.6	Dario
	D	12.1	Tri X Triple Threat
	E	4.3	SP1

*Means with the same letter are not significantly different.