

**EVALUATION OF SUMMER SQUASH CULTIVARS
FOR SOUTHERN OHIO, 2008**

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***The authors wish to thank the Ohio Vegetable and Small Fruit Research and Development Program and cooperating seed companies for providing funding and support of this project.**

METHODS:

Seeds were planted June 19th on raised beds (double rows 12” apart, 18” in row) covered with black plastic mulch with trickle irrigation under the plastic. Plot rows were 5 feet apart. Experimental design was randomized complete block with 4 replications. The field is located in southern Ohio, at the Ohio State University South Centers research and demonstration plots. 100 units of N were applied prior to laying the plastic mulch. A standard commercial fungicide and insecticide program following OSU Bulletin #672, The Vegetable Production Guide, was followed, on a 7-10 day schedule.

RESULTS:

Three varieties were tested including Payroll, Spineless Beauty and Paycheck. Two varieties were planted as observation trials only by seed company request including Reward and HMX7726. Six varieties were tested for powdery mildew resistance including Gentry, Spineless Beauty, Sunglo, Amatista, Payroll and Envy. Average total fruit per acre (107,143) was not statistically different among varieties and ranged from 98,214-121,071. Average total pounds per acre (81,679) were not statistically different among varieties and ranged from 75,314-88,743. Average pounds of small fruit per acre (15,458) were not statistically different among varieties and ranged from 14,089-17,643. Average pounds of medium fruit per acre (25,502) were not statistically different among varieties and ranged from 24,532-26,386. Average pounds of large fruit per acre (40,718) were not statistically different among varieties and ranged from 35,636-44,714. Average fruit weights (0.76) were not statistically different and ranged from 0.73-0.78).