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Vegetable Varieties

IN MINNESOTA



"Badger Market Cabbage"

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Agricultural Extension Service
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Vegetable Varieties

The selection of adapted varieties for Minnesota gardens is one of the simplest and still one of the most important steps to a successful garden. Not only are the newer introductions better producers but many are disease-resistant and of better quality.

To assist gardeners in the selection of vegetable varieties, the Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service conducts trials in cooperation with both home and commercial gardeners around the state. This folder summarizes the observations made in 1955. The map shown on the facing page gives the location of the 1955 tests plots.

A suggested list of tested varieties that have been found to be suitable for various parts of Minnesota is also included. Special emphasis is given to varieties suitable for freezing. It should be noted that there may be other acceptable varieties not on this list because they have not yet been tested or are not generally available from seedsmen. It is only after several years of testing that we can judge the dependability of a variety for a certain area. All varieties discussed in this folder are available from seedsmen, but no one seed company will have all of them.

New Varieties Tested in 1955

ASPARAGUS

F₁ Asparagus—A new cross resulting from an outstanding male plant developed by the University of Minnesota. The F₁ strain has greater vigor than the Washington or Paradise varieties, and the spears are bigger and heavier. It is rust resistant. Good for freezing.

SNAP BEANS

Tendergreen resistant—A mosaic-resistant strain of the very popular Tendergreen variety. It produces heavy crops of beans that are well distributed on the plant and held well off the ground. It rated high in yield and quality.

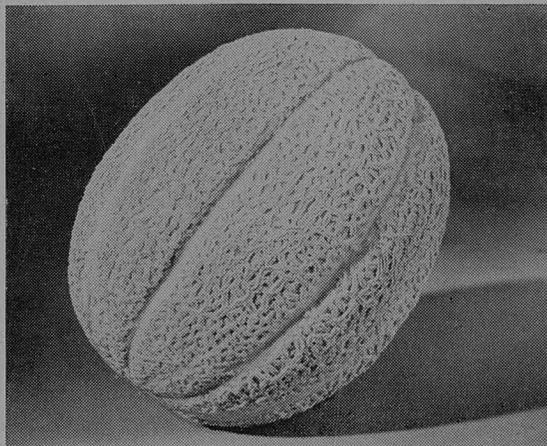
Topcrop—One of the most popular varieties because of combined high quality and productiveness. Pods are round, straight, and meaty. They are con-

CARROTS

Nantes—One of the most popular carrots grown today in home gardens. The roots are long, cylindrical, and stump rooted. The core is inconspicuous, with a uniform reddish-orange color. It appears to reach usable size earlier than other varieties. Gardeners rated it high in quality.

Touchon—A variety similar to Nantes, but longer and slimmer. The base of the roots is somewhat shovel-nosed in appearance. Cooperators liked this variety but showed preference for Nantes.

Royal Chantenay—A new strain of Red Cored Cantenay that grows slightly longer and is less tapered. It has a good interior color. It is particularly well suited to the heavier, shallow soils where longer carrots are more difficult to grow.



Burpee Hybrid Muskmelon

Varieties Suggested for Minnesota Home Gardens

ASPARAGUS—Washington,* Fl Hybrid*
 BEANS, DRY OR FIELD—Great Northern, Michelite, Red Kidney
 BEANS, LIMA—Triumph,*† Henderson,† Burpee's Improved*†
 BEANS, POLE—Kentucky Wonder*
 BEANS, GREEN BUSH—Topcrop,* Tendergreen,* Contender,
 Wade*
 BEANS, YELLOW BUSH—Cherokee,* Pencil-Pod Black Wax,*
 Brittle Wax*
 BEETS—King Red,* Perfected Detroit,* Early Wonder
 BROCCOLI—Italian Green Sprouting (Calabrese), Waltham 29*
 BRUSSELS SPROUTS—Long Island Improved*
 CABBAGE—*early*—Golden Acre, Wisconsin Golden Acre (yel-
 lows resistant), Resistant Detroit (yellows resistant), Red
 Acre; *late*—Hollander Short Stem, Penn State Ballhead,
 Danish Ballhead, Wisconsin Hollander (yellows resistant)
 CABBAGE, CHINESE—Chihili, Michihili
 CARROTS—Nantes,* Royal Chantenay,* Danvers Half Long,
 Imperator*
 CAULIFLOWER—Snowball,* Super Snowball*
 CELERY—Golden Self Blanching, Utah
 CORN, SWEET—*early*—Golden Rocket, Sugar and Gold*;
mid-
season—Golden Freezer,*† Golden Cross Bantam*†
 CUCUMBERS, PICKLING—Chicago Pickling, York State Pickling,
 Mincu
 CUCUMBERS, SLICING—Burpee Hybrid, Hybrid C, Marketer
 EGGPLANT—Black Beauty,*† New Hampshire*
 ENDIVE—Green Curled
 KALE—Dwarf Curled*
 KOHLRABI—Early White Vienna,* Purple Vienna*
 LETTUCE, HEAD—Pennlake, Premier Great Lakes
 LETTUCE, LEAF—Grand Rapids, Black Seeded Simpson, Slobolt

MUSKMELON—*early*—Minnesota Midget,‡ Far North; *midsea-*
son—Iroquois,*† Minnesota Honey,† Delicious 51†
 ONION—Early Yellow Globe, Brigham Yellow Globe, Utah Sweet
 Spanish
 ONION, PERENNIAL—White Welsh, Egyptian
 PARSLEY—Dark Moss Curled
 PARSNIPS—Improved Hollow Crown,* All American*
 PEAS—*early*—Little Marvel,* Laxtons Progress,* Burpeana Early
 Dwarf*;
midseason—Wando, Lincoln,* Dark Seeded Perfection*
 PEPPERS—Sunnybrook, Wisconsin Lakes, Calwonder,† Long Red
 Cayenne†
 POPCORN—Minhybrid 250†
 POTATOES—*early*—Red Warba, Waseca, Irish Cobbler; *midsea-*
son—Cherokee, Kennebec, Red Pontiac
 PUMPKIN—Sugar Pie, Jack-o-Lantern
 RADISH—Cherry Belle, Early Scarlet Globe, Comet, Cavalier,
 White Icicle
 RHUBARB—Valentine,* MacDonald Crimson,* Chipman's Canada
 Red*
 RUTABAGA—Laurentian
 SPINACH—Bloomsdale Long Standing,* America,* New Zealand*
 SQUASH, SUMMER—Black Zucchini,* Early Prolific Straightneck*
 SQUASH, WINTER—Buttercup,* Hybrid R.,* Greengold,* Table
 Queen, Butternut*
 SWISS CHARD—Lucullus, Rhubarb
 TOMATO—*early*—Fireball,† Firesteel, Hybrid E; *midseason*—
 Stokesdale, Pritchard†; *late*—Marglobe,† Rutgers†
 TOMATO, YELLOW—Jubilee
 TURNIP—Purple Top White Globe
 WATERMELON—New Hampshire Midget, Northern Sweet, Early
 Kansas,†, Kleckley Sweet†

* Suitable for freezing. † For region I only. ‡ For region II only. See map on page 3 of this folder.

CUCUMBER

Burpee Hybrid—A first generation hybrid that is extremely vigorous and productive. It appears to be quite tolerant to mosaic disease and to downy mildew which causes plants to become weak and unproductive. Fruits are dark green, straight and uniform with square ends. Gardeners reported excellent results with this hybrid. Only a few hills will produce an abundance of slicers and pickles.

Marketer—Although not a F_1 hybrid, this variety is becoming one of the most popular cucumbers. It is not resistant to mosaic disease, but its vines are extremely vigorous. Fruits are dark green, long, slim, and tapered slightly toward each end. Seed cavity is small. It rated high in Minnesota trials.

Wisconsin SMR-9—A new pickling-type cucumber with resistance to both spot rot disease and mosaic. Fruits are medium size, well warted, and lighter in color than the National Pickling. Spines are black. Garden cooperators showed a preference for the other two varieties.

LETTUCE

Matchless—A new, high-quality lettuce that tolerates heat and does not go to seed. Quality is sweet and tender similar to Bibb. The plants develop an upright, loose cluster of slender leaves shaped like a deer's tongue. Cooperators scored this variety high in last season's trials.

Bibb—An old variety that is grown by commercial gardeners. Home gardeners indicated difficulty in growing this variety, because it grows fast and quickly goes to seed. Leaves are small and rounded, and have thick tender midribs. It is a high-quality lettuce when grown properly. Gardeners preferred Matchless.

MUSKMELON

Burpee Hybrid—One of the first F_1 hybrid muskmelons offered to home gardeners. Cooperators last year indicated this new hybrid to be outstanding in performance. Vines are vigorous and appear to have disease resistance. Fruits are large, heavily netted, and not as deeply ribbed as Iroquois. It is midseason in maturity.

Minnesota Honey—A new, medium-early variety developed by the University of Minnesota. Fruits are large, semi-oval, and heavily netted. Sugar content is high, with a thick flesh and thin rind. Some gardeners showed preference for this melon because of high quality.

Pennsweet—A recent All-America winner in 1955. Fruits are medium-early, averaging about 6 inches in length. Flesh is salmon colored, thick, and sweet. Reports indicated lower yields from this variety in comparison to the three other varieties tried in 1955.

Farnorth—An early maturing variety that rated high in reports from northern Minnesota. Although the fruits are small, they are still larger than Minnesota Midget. Flesh is salmon colored and sweet.

ONION

Autumn Spice—One of the new hybrid onions recently made available to home gardeners. Bulbs are medium size, round and hard, with a very pungent flavor. The heavy brown shell is well retained and it appears to be an excellent storing variety. Most reports indicated promising results with this hybrid.

Faribo Hybrid—Another hybrid onion that appears to mature earlier and produces uniform round bulbs, light brown in color. It rated about equal to Autumn Spice in last season's trials.

PEAS

Burpeana Early Drawf—An excellent, early maturing variety for productivity and quality. Vines are 18 to 24 inches tall and bear pods 3 to 3¼ inches long. Pods are well filled with peas that have been found excellent for freezing. Earliness, yield, and quality were rated high by cooperators.

Hundredfold—Another early, dwarf, large-podded variety producing good yields of peas. It received many favorable reports after this first year's trial.

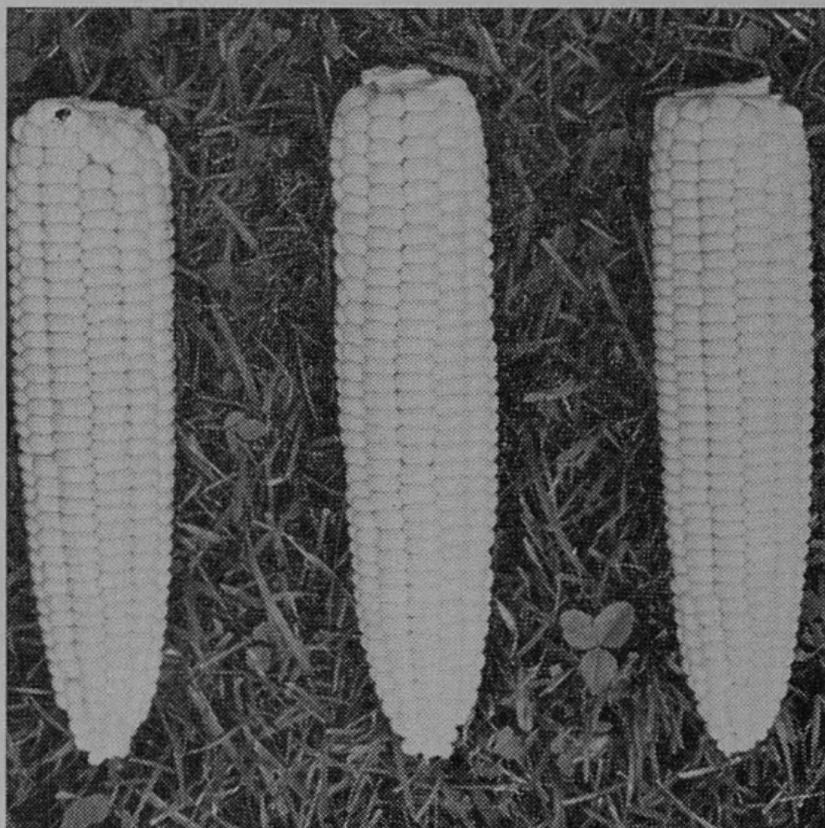
Dark Seed Perfection—A variety resistant to Fusarium Wilt. It has 30-inch vines, and pods are about 3¼ inches long with 7 to 9 medium-size, dark green peas. It rated high as a home garden variety for fresh use, canning, or freezing.

Wando—A later maturing variety to lengthen out the pea harvest season in the garden. It appears to withstand unfavorable conditions better than other

varieties. Vines are medium size and 28 to 30 inches tall. Pods are about 3 inches long and tightly filled with high-quality peas. Like the above three varieties, this was also scored high by cooperators.

POTATO

Red LaSoda—A medium-early, high-yielding variety with a more intense red color than the original LaSoda. Tubers are smooth, and round-to-oblong with medium-shallow eyes. It has no resistance to scab or blight, but the cooking quality is good.



Golden Beauty Sweet Corn

PUMPKIN

Jack-O-Lantern—A new variety of pumpkin, developed chiefly for Halloween decoration. Fruits are medium size, in between the small sugar pie and large Connecticut field varieties. The bright orange, smooth-ribbed fruits are excellent for carving faces.

SQUASH

Hybrid R.—This first generation hybrid squash continues to rate high with home gardeners. Vines are vigorous and highly productive. Fruits are red-orange and turban-shaped. The hard rind makes it an excellent squash for winter storage. The flesh is thick, fine grained, dry and sweet. It is early in maturity.

Mammoth Table-Queen—A large-fruited strain of the common Table Queen or Acorn variety. Fruits are dark green, 6 to 7 inches long, and 5 inches across. Cooperators rated this variety good, although preference was given to Hybrid R.

SWEET CORN

Earliest Market King—A new early hybrid which has rated high in trials the last two years. Ears are 7 to 8 inches long and 1¾ inches in diameter, with 12 rows of golden kernels. The husk cover extends 1 to 2 inches beyond the ear tip. Quality and yield are good.

Sugar and Gold—For three years this hybrid has been one of the earliest high-quality sweet corns for the home garden. The slender ears are 7 to 8 inches long, with eight rows of yellow and white kernels of high sugar content.

Golden Beauty—An All-America selection in 1955 that produces early, attractive ears of corn. Ears are 8 to 9 inches long with 12 straight rows of golden kernels. Husks are tight. This variety was scored highest in general desirability by cooperators.

N.K. Code 195—A new midseason hybrid, with medium-size ears and 14 to 16 rows of yellow kernels. Quality and yield were reported good.

TOMATO

Polaris—A new F₁ hybrid that produces early crops of tomatoes. Fruits are of medium size, a deep globe shape, solid flesh and mild flavor. It was one of the highest yielding hybrids of good quality fruit tested last season.

Fireball—A new variety tested for the third year. It is one of the earliest tomato varieties producing medium-size fruit. Large clusters of globe-shaped fruit ripen quickly from white to bright red. As the season progresses, the yield and quality drop off quite noticeably. It is especially suited for northern Minnesota where earliness is desired.

Big Boy—A hybrid tomato that is growing in popularity. Plants are large, vigorous, and productive. On the average, it produced the largest fruits of all tomatoes tested last year in Minnesota trials. Fruits are firm and meaty. Quality is excellent.

Big Early Hybrid—A large fruiting, early F₁ hybrid tested for the first time in 1955. Fruits are round and smooth, ripening uniformly. Walls are thick and the flesh is meaty.



Big Early Hybrid Tomato

WATERMELON

Rhode Island Red—A new early, high-quality watermelon for the home garden. Although not quite as early as New Hampshire Midget, it produces larger fruits. Fruits are attractively striped and have a good firm rind that stands handling. Flesh is pink-red with comparatively few seeds. It rated high in all parts of the state.

New Hampshire Midget—One of the earliest of all watermelons. It is especially well suited for the north in short season areas. Fruits are small, and a light mottled green in color. The rind is thin and the flesh orange-red. Seeds are numerous.

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