

Project Title: Bacterial Spot Resistant Pepper Cultivar Evaluation - 2006

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Objectives:

1. Evaluate new pepper cultivars for yield, quality and acceptability to Ontario processors when produced under Ontario growing conditions.

Methodology:

Six bell pepper cultivars were seeded in the greenhouse into 200 cell trays containing BM-3 growing media on 04 May, 2006. Aristotle was included as green standard cultivars, and King Arthur was included as an early maturing comparison. The peppers were transplanted on 12 June into a Brookston clay loam sand spot phase soil on the Ridgetown College research farm, with a row spacing of 1.0 m and in row spacing of 45 cm (22 222 plants/ha).

Weeds were controlled with a preplant incorporated treatment of Treflan. Weed escapes were controlled with cultivation and hoeing.

Nitrogen fertilizer was applied preplant at rate of 60 kg/ha actual N. Phosphorous and potassium applications were based on soil analysis. European corn borers were controlled with sprays of Decis and Sevin.

The plots were irrigated with Netafim Streamline irrigation tape. Green peppers were harvested until 10 October.

The trial was established in a randomized complete block design with four replications. A single plot consisted of 1 rows, 8 m in length with 1.0 m between the rows.

Results:

Yields and fruit size were relatively low in 2006, likely due to a late planting date. Double Up was the top yielding cultivar (10.9 t/acre) as well as Excursion II (9.5 t/acre). Double Up produced the most fruit per plant (7.7) and also had the largest fruit (264 g). Double Up and Aristotle produced the greatest early yields.