

The Experiment Station's New Crops Program



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The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station



Vegetable Production in Connecticut

- About 11,000 acres on 733 farms with a cash value of 30.2 million dollars
- Over 63% of these farms are less than 50 acres
- Marketing has shifted to direct retail sales
- Over 70 different types of vegetables grown commercially



115 farmers markets attended by over 400 farmers in 2010



About 560 farms have roadside stands



About 120 are opened year round



New Crops Program

- Since 1981, over 40 fruits and vegetables have been studied
- Crops had an existing or expanding market in Connecticut
- Cultivar trials of popular vegetables
- Cultural trials of high value crops not normally grown in Connecticut
- Station Bulletins and fact sheets



Cultivar Trials

- Crops commonly grown throughout Connecticut
- Larger acreages
- Trials conducted at two sites – Hamden and Windsor
- Trials at least 3-years in duration
- May be repeated after several years





Broccoli

102 cultivars evaluated



Cauliflower

69 cultivars evaluated



Iceberg Lettuce

15 cultivars evaluated



Supersweet Corn

42 cultivars evaluated



Onions

35 cultivars evaluated



Specialty Vegetables

- High value crops
- Smaller acreages
- Not commonly grown in Connecticut
- Cultural trials
- Cultivar trials
- Trials conducted at Hamden and Windsor
- Trials at least 3-years in duration





Belgian Endive

44 cultivars evaluated





Personal-sized Watermelons

19 cultivars evaluated



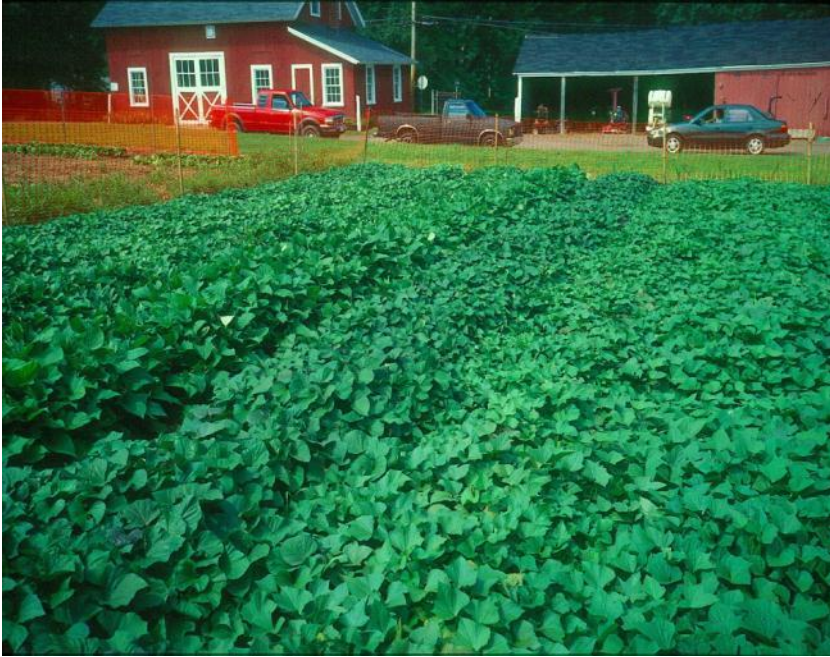
Specialty Melons

16 cultivars evaluated



Heirloom Tomatoes

57 cultivars evaluated



Sweet Potatoes

14 cultivars evaluated



Pumpkins

27 cultivars evaluated



Japanese Plums

12 cultivars evaluated



Ethnic Vegetables

- High value crops
- Smaller acreages
- Not commonly grown in Connecticut
- High appeal in specific areas of Connecticut
- Cultural and cultivar trials
- Trials at least 3 years in duration in Hamden and Windsor





Globe Artichokes

34 cultivars evaluated



Calabaza

6 cultivars evaluated



Jilo

2 cultivars evaluated





Chinese Vegetables

21 Pak Choi and 34 Chinese
Cabbage cultivars evaluated



Radicchio

37 cultivars evaluated





Vegetable Amaranth

8 cultivars evaluated

Current Research

- Specialty peppers – Plot 2
- Sweet potatoes – Plot 4
- Specialty eggplant – Plot 5
- Specialty pumpkins – Plot 7
- Edamame – Plot 9
- Calabaza – Plot 51
- Pak choi





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