

**Spooner Agricultural
Research Station**

2009

**Fruit, Flower
and Vegetable
Display Garden**

Centennial Edition

1909-2009

***Providing research, demonstrations,
and information to the citizens of
Wisconsin for 100 years***

Dear Garden Visitor:

Welcome to our horticulture demonstration and research garden. We have printed this book as a guide to flowers, vegetables and perennials planted in the garden. You are welcome to take a copy with you. **Please do not pick any of the flowers, fruits or vegetables. Many of the plants are being evaluated for fruit production and appearance.**

This garden is a joint effort between the Spooner Ag Research Station, operated by the University of Wisconsin-Madison College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, the University of Wisconsin Cooperative Extension Service, and area UW-Extension Master Gardener Volunteers.

This garden's purpose is to demonstrate perennial and annual plants that are suitable for growing in zone 3. In addition, there are many perennial plantings being evaluated for winter survival and growth habit. Part of the garden is an official All America Selections Display Garden. This AAS Display is one of only seven sites found in Wisconsin.

A major addition to the garden this year was the installation of a low pressure drip irrigation system. Water for this system is being supplied by the elevated water tank located outside the garden, and filled by the windmill located in the garden. Various drip lines and low volume 1-2 gal/minute emitters were installed. The entire system will be hooked up to a solar panel powered controller, so that different zones of the garden can be irrigated. This water system will help eliminate overhead watering, reduce water use, and is powered by "green" no carbon emission energy.

This is the third season growing cold hardy wine grapes from the University of Minnesota breeding program. Research evaluations are also being conducted on garlic, heirloom tomatoes, and annual flower varieties. In addition to the drip irrigation there is also demonstrations of different tomato trellis systems.

The perennial landscape display, designed and maintained by local UW-Extension Master Gardener Volunteers, continues to be the highlight of the garden. Plants continue to be evaluated for their performance, and are dug, divided and even moved in hopes of achieving esthetically pleasing displays. This is the sixth season for this display.

We hope you enjoy viewing our garden! The garden is open and free of charge for self-guided tours. Group tours are also available on request. Thank you for stopping by.

Kevin Schoessow

Area Ag Development Agent, University of Wisconsin Cooperative Extension

Phil Holman

Superintendent, Spooner Agriculture Research Station

The Spooner Agricultural Research Station *UW-Madison College of Ag and Life Sciences* *University of Wisconsin-Extension*

The UW Spooner Ag Research Station is a unique facility that houses five UW Faculty from both UW-Madison Ag Research Stations and UW-Extension. This administrative arrangement is referred to as the “Northern Wisconsin Ag Initiative” (NWAII). The NWAII’s main objective is to combine the skills and expertise of these five University of Wisconsin Faculty and Staff to better serve the needs of the surrounding community.

History

The Spooner Agricultural Research Station was established one hundred years ago in 1909 when the city of Spooner donated 80 acres of sandy loam soil to the University of Wisconsin. An additional 80 acres adjoining the original was purchased from Mabel Dodge in 1911. In 1931, 243 acres were purchased from J.D. Thomas. Highway sales in 1963 and 1985 totaled 15 acres, resulting in the present size of 388 acres.

Crop improvement has been an important task at the station. The station produced Wisconsin #25 open pollinated dent corn and Spooner oats, both good selections at the time. The station was instrumental in the development, release, and maintenance of Wisconsin Early Black, Flambeau, 606 Manchu, and 507 Mandarin soybeans.

In 1923, the station undertook the inbreeding of corn and by 1929 made the first early experimental double hybrids. The station supervised the production and processing of foundation seed stocks, reaching a high of 3,602 acres in 1946. The station pioneered the use of irrigation on farm crops.

The sheep project on the Spooner station was taken on in 1936 after an outbreak of Brucellosis in the herd of dairy cattle. The herd of 25 was disposed of and the sheep project was initiated to utilize excess roughage. Research of all kinds, from pasture studies to introduction of the Targhee breed to Wisconsin, has been done. In 1995—as a response to the many Wisconsin sheep producers who had shown a strong interest—the Station began pioneering research in the dairy sheep industry and remains the definitive source for dairy sheep information in the country. A sheep milking parlor was opened in 1996. The station has hosted the Spooner State Sheep Day for over 50 years and is instrumental in the planning and execution of the Annual Great Lakes Dairy Sheep Symposium.

Current Research

Crops: The current field crop research at the Spooner Research Station is diversified.

Crops include corn, alfalfa, forage grasses, kura clover, wheat, oats, rye, barley, sunflower, soybeans, and potatoes. Research centers on weed control, variety evaluation, and planting date and plant population effects on yield and quality. In addition, research is done on insect and disease control, irrigation management, and effects of soil type, fertility, and pH.

In 1999, the Station undertook new research in fast-growing hybrid poplar trees, and in 2001 a 2 1/2 acre Native Prairie Restoration was established. In 2008 a wine grape variety trial was established. Crop research is performed not only on the Station’s sandy loam soils, but also on off-station silt loam soil. Off-station research is used to provide information to the many growers using similar soils in northwest Wisconsin.

Sheep: Sheep research is a major program at the Spooner Ag Research Station. Current research is focused on dairy sheep, especially the genetic improvement of dairy sheep and production of sheep milk for processing into cheese. Animal research resources include:

- * 350 ewes of various ages; East Friesian crossbreeds and Lacaune crossbreeds.
- * 12 Katahdin hair sheep for crossbreeding
- * 14 rams
- * Sheep barn (50' x 168'), 30 acres of rotationally grazed pasture, ram barn, and dairy sheep milking parlor.

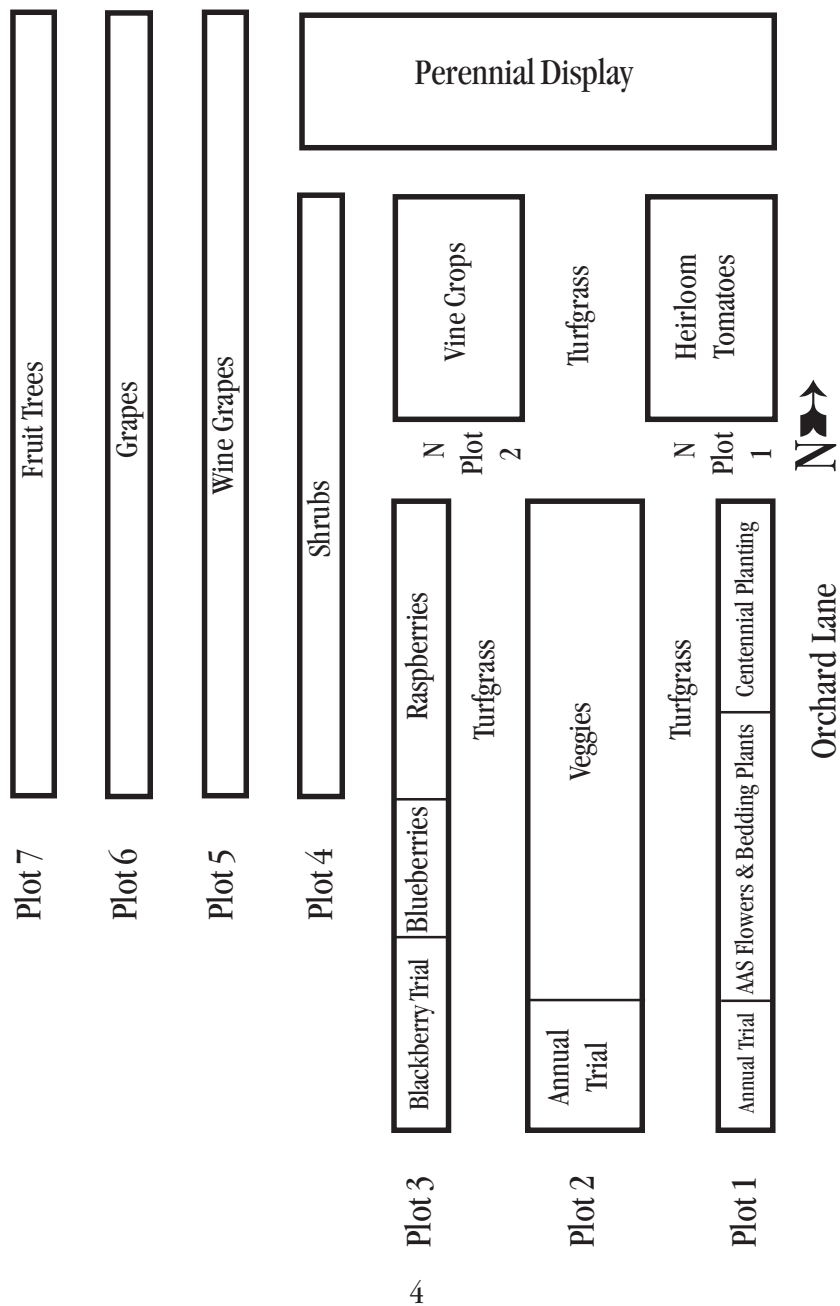
Teaching and Outreach Activities

The Spooner Ag Research Station has an “open door” policy for all visitors and welcomes many individuals as well as academic and civic tour groups each year; however, we ask that visitors receive authorization before entering animal facilities or touring the grounds outside of the demonstration garden. The Station hosts its annual Sheep Day as well as many other crop and horticultural field days, which furthers its mission to serve the people of the state through agricultural education.

Groups and individuals are always welcome. Tours may be arranged with advance notice. For more information about the Spooner Ag Research Station and its research and educational programs, please contact:

Spooner Ag Research Station
W6646 Highway 70, Spooner, WI 54801
715-635-3735 or 800-528-1914
<http://www.uwex.edu/ces/sars/index.htm>

2009 Garden Area Layout



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AAS - All America Selections is a non-profit organization for evaluating new seed-grown flowers and vegetables from around the world for home garden performance. To identify All-America flowers and vegetables, look for the All-America Selections Winner emblem on seed packets, seed catalogs, and on bedding plants.

 Denotes a “Master Gardener Favorite.” These varieties have performed well for local gardeners.

Gardening Glossary

All of these terms are used for plants that you will find at your local garden centers, in seed and plant catalogs, and at farmers markets around the state.

All plants are placed in one of the three distinct life cycles:

Annuals - Plants that grow from seed to seed in one year or less.

Perennials - Plants that live for several years. Perennials should be listed for specific hardiness zones. The hardiness zones for this area range from Zone 3 to 4.

Biennials - True biennials have only vegetative growth the year they germinate and flower and die the second year.

In addition to the life cycle classification, each plant has a separate classification due to the different breeding methods used to reproduce each plant:

Cultivars - Plants that are bred by plant scientists to produce plants with specific characteristics such as flower color, winter hardiness, prolific fruit production, or disease insect resistances.

Varieties - Plants that are found in the garden or wild (are not products of crosses by plant scientists) and chosen for their distinct characteristics.

Hybrids - Plants that are produced from a controlled cross between two distinct cultivars or varieties. Seed produced by hybrids will revert back to one or both of the parent plants.

Heirlooms - These are plants that are open pollinated. An open-pollinated plant is one that produces seed that retains the true characteristics of the plant from which it grows. Heirloom plants were grown in the past and are part of our history. Many of these seeds were grown and produced by Native Americans. Early European immigrants also brought many of the seeds to this country. The seeds have been gathered by home gardeners, farmers, and collectors and saved for future generations.

Determinate - *Bush* growth habit. Stem elongation stops when the terminal flower racemes of the main stem or lateral branches have developed. Fruit set occurs within a short period of time.

Indeterminate - *Vine or trailing* growth habit. Flowering and fruit set will continue simultaneously or alternately as long as temperature and moisture permits growth to occur. Continuously set fruit.

How does our Garden Grow?

Our research/demonstration garden is managed in many ways like most home gardens. We try to grow things as natural or sustainable as possible. We utilize integrated pest management practices to monitor pest, and use management techniques to minimize the use of sprays. This approach does allow for some insect and disease presence and as a result some plants may have signs of pest damage.

Most transplants and seeds were planted June 3-6. Composted sheep manure was applied in fall of 2007 to the annual garden beds at a rate of ~50 lb/100ft². Perennial flowers in the perennial display garden received one tsp/plant of Osmocote® (14-14-14) in May. Soil test levels indicate there are adequate phosphorus and potassium levels so no additional P or K fertilizer has been applied to.

Thanks to a wonderful crew of volunteers and station staff we are able to do nearly all of our weed control using the Xmas herbicide — hoe-hoe-hoe. This control option involves hand weeding, tilling and of course hoeing. Preen (triflourlin) was used as a pre emergence weed control in the perennial display garden and on the bed for annual flowers.

Insect and disease pest are monitored and treated ONLY AS NEEDED. Septoria leaf spot and early blight disease on tomato and other leaf disease are managed using a flowable liquid copper fungicide (Soap Shield®). Soft bodied insects (aphids, lacebugs, mealybugs) are sprayed with insecticidal soap. Other insects pest (beetles, caterpillars, leafrollers, and thrips) are sprayed with a bioinsecticide spinosad (Bull's-Eye™). Floating row cover was placed over cabbage to minimize cabbage looper and flea beetle damage. Red sphere traps coated with tangle foot are used to control apple maggot fly.

Perennial Display Garden

This display garden was designed to show gardeners how they might incorporate roses and other perennials into their home landscaping setting. Each of the eight garden beds has different rose varieties, from the low maintenance rugosa type shrub roses, to the high maintenance hybrid tea roses. To complement the roses, beds were designed to include other perennial flowers, shrubs and trees. Each bed is meant to be viewed from all sides. They were designed to work together as a whole, while at the same time, each bed can be considered as a compete and unique individual garden. This display was made possible by the time, talents and financial support of the UW-Extension North Country Master Gardener Association, and by generous donations from local businesses and greenhouses. More information on the perennial display garden can be found in the display garden booklet found in the mailbox at the garden entrance.

Garden Weeds

As with any garden we have our fair share of “troublesome or unwanted plants”. Below is a list of some of the more common weeds found in the garden and in farm fields here on the Ag Research Station.

Perennials: Yellow nutsedge, Quackgrass, Yellow rocket, Hoary alyssum, White cockle, Common dandelion, Canada thistle, Common milkweed, Blackseeded plantain, curly dock, and Mouse-ear chickweed.

Biennial Species: Bull thistle, Common Mallow, Common mullein, Burdock

Annual Grasses: Large crabgrass, Green foxtail, Giant foxtail, Fall panicum, and Witchgrass.

Annual Broadleaves: Pennsylvania smartweed, Redroot pigweed, Common lambsquarter, Velevetleaf, Sheperd’s purse, Field pennycress, Wild mustard, Eastern black nightshade, Hairy black nightshade, Carpet weed, Common ragweed, Gaint ragweed, Common purslane.

Garden Watering System and Windmill

To better meet the water needs of the demonstration garden, an “off the grid” watering system has been development. The system includes a 60 foot deep six inch cased drilled well, an elevated 500 gallon storage tank and an Airliftech windmill. A compressor mounted on top of the windmill produces air pressure, which is then transferred from the windmill to the airpump in the cased well by a buried airline. A four mph wind is needed to pump water from the well to the elevated tank. The elevated tank provides ~10 psi of water pressure.


Water from the elevated tank is distributed to the garden by a buried ¾ inch plastic water line that is hooked up to three upright water faucets, and a drip irrigation system. A solar powered battery operated controller distributes water to five zones in the garden. The apples, and two rows of grapes demonstrate three different dripper lines, while the perennial display uses a combination of drip hoses, and drip emitters.

North Plot 1 - Heirloom Tomatoes

In general an heirloom is a variety that has been passed down through several generations because of its valued characteristics. Each variety is noted for its unique color, size, fruit shape, texture and or flavor. All heirloom varieties are open pollinated and as a result their seeds can be saved and passed down from generation to generation,

while maintaining the desired variety characteristics. This display is a small selection of the hundreds of heirloom tomato varieties. Each variety is being evaluated for earliness, fruit quality and appropriateness for fresh market sales. Heirloom tomato seeds can be purchased from a variety of on-line catalogs. If you don’t wish to start your own plants, many of the varieties listed below can be purchased as transplants from the North Country Master Gardeners at their spring plant sale held the third Saturday in May at the Spooner Ag Research Station.


Tomato **Bush Champion** - Determinate. 70 days. *Lycopersicon esculentum*. (F1) Plant produces good yields of 12 oz red tomatoes. The tomatoes are very meaty and flavorful. The variety was bred to honor the 100th Anniversary of Ball Seed Company. Grows in almost any type of climate. A variety from the USA. Disease Resistant


 *Tomato* **Czech Stupice** - (*Stu-peach-ka*) Indeterminate. 55-60 days. Extremely early tomato with medium 3-5 oz red fruits. Excellent for a fresh snack and on salads.


Tomato **Marrianas Peace** - Indeterminate. 85 days. Pink heirloom tomato that originated in Czechoslovakia. 1-2 lb., pink beefsteak tomatoes. Dense, creamy, sweet flesh with rich complex, old tomatoey flavors.


Tomato **German Johnson** - Indeterminate. 76 days. Popular heirloom tomato from Virginia and North Carolina. Pink and red fruits that average ¾-1 ½ lbs. With smooth tops. Good for slicing and canning. Few seeds. Very productive plants and fairly resistant to disease.

Tomato **Druzba** - Indeterminate. 75 days. Bulgarian heirloom with a name that translates as “friendship”. Round 4 inch fruit with excellent juicy and sweet flavor. 5 ozs. in weight and 2 inches long.


 *Tomato* **Speckled Roman** - Indeterminate. 75 days. Regular-leaf tomato plants that have a high yield of very intriguingly beautiful, meaty, 4-6-inch long, orange-red paste tomato with good flavors and wavy yellow stripes. Looks like a fat sausage with a pointed end. A great novelty tomato that makes a good tomato sauce.

 *Tomato* **Cherokee Purple** - Indeterminate. 80 days. At least 100 years old and was reported to be grown by Cherokee Indians. Fruits are large, 12-16 oz. dark pink with darker purple shoulders. Excellent complex flavor, slightly sweet aftertaste, perfect slices for sandwiches.

 *Tomato* **Yugoslavian Pink** - 80-90 days. Large beefsteak fruits have perfect top quality, extremely uniform strain, very productive. Great full tomato flavor.

 **Tomato Prudens Purple** - Indeterminate. 75 days. Large potato leaf vine produces lots of 1-lb., slightly flattened, pretty, blemish-free, purple-pink fruits with few tomato seeds and excellent flavor.

Tomato Roman Candle - Indeterminate. 80-85 days. Pure-yellow, banana-shaped, paste-type fruit that is 4 to 6 inches long. The superior flavor of 'Roman Candle' tomatoes, combined with the meaty flesh, make it a great choice for salsas and sauces. The bright yellow skin combined with the white flesh add visual interest as well.

 **Tomato Russian Persimmon** - Indeterminate. 80 days. Plants grow 36 inches tall and the fruit is 3-4 inches in diameter. Fruit is smooth and free of blemishes. Ripens to the same yellow-orange color as a persimmon. Mild sweet flavor.

Tomato Jaune Flamme - Indeterminate. 70 days. Extremely prolific French heirloom tomato that bears in clusters of 6, beautiful, 1 1/2-inch, round, golf-ball sized tomatoes that are persimmon-orange colored inside and out

Tomato French Montpellier - Indeterminate. 75 days. One of the oldest known tomatoes, this French heirloom dates back from 1790! The 4 ounce red fruit hangs in clusters of 3 to 4. This variety was used for both medicine and sauces, the flavor is very good, it has a spicy and rich taste. The plants give huge yields.

Tomato San Marzano - Indeterminate. 78 days. Variety of a plum tomato. Came from a small town (San Marzano) in Naples, Italy. They are grown in volcanic soil in the shadow of Mt. Vesuvius. The soil is believed to act as a filter for water impurities. The fruits are thin and pointy in shape and have few seeds. Open pollinated variety that breeds from generation to generation making seed saving practical for the home gardener. Produces to 1st hard frost.

Tomato Russian Yellow - Indeterminate. 78 days. 3-inch yellow flattened globes with a mild but sweet flavor.

Tomato Big Beef - (F1 hybrid) Indeterminate. 73 days. These large, juicy, fruits combine old-fashioned beefsteak flavor with heavy yields. 1-pound, round to globe-shaped. Flavor is full and hearty with lots of sweet juice balanced with that wonderful tomato acidity. These giants slice up perfectly for big sandwiches. Fruit stays large even at the end of a long harvest season. **AAS 1994**

Tomato Polish Olpaka - Indeterminate. 85 days. A sweet, meaty paste tomato from Poland. Shaped like elongated plum tomatoes, these odd looking fruits are packed with a great tomato flavor.

Tomato Amish Paste - Indeterminate. 81 days. Very productive heirloom from Wisconsin that produces up to 12 oz, deep-red oxheart-shaped, meaty fruit. Lots of sweet, tomatoey flavors from this coreless meaty fruit. A great slicing and sauce tomato.


Tomato Sunsugar - (F1 hybrid) 62-67 days. A medium-sized, orange ripening cherry tomato, sought after for its intense sweet flavor. The fruits grow to a bit under an inch wide, with a thin skin that is very crack resistant. Plants fruit in huge quantities, with a single plant often bearing hundreds of fruits in a single season. The fruits have decent storage capabilities, generally lasting off the vine for 1-2 weeks. Plants are vigorous and may grow to 6-7ft, though it will fruit nicely in containers.

Tomato Sugary - (F1 hybrid) 60 days. Super-sweet flavor, a fun new shape, and huge, huge yields on plants that just keep growing up and up all season! 1/2-ounce dark pink fruits are packed with sweetness. **AAS 2005**

Tomato Sungold - (F1 hybrid) 55-58 days. One of the premier varieties of cherry tomatoes. The Sun Gold ripens to a golden orange, with a very sweet flavor. This tomato is popular in all climates as it produces in warm and cold conditions. Fruit matures quickly, and crops heavily throughout the warmer months.


Garlic

(Allium sativum) Differs from onions in that its bulb is composed of about 10 cloves arranged inside a papery bulb cover. Garlic cloves are planted in the fall, 1-2 weeks after the fall killing frost. Larger cloves yield larger sized mature bulbs at harvest. Plant cloves 4-6 inches apart in an upright position 1-2 inches deep and cover with 4-6 inches of straw mulch. Harvest the bulbs as the tops begins to dry, knock off excess soil and cure in a dry location out of direct sunlight.

 **Hardneck types** - All produce a woody flower stalk called a scape. Some types may not produce a large bulb unless the flower stalks are removed. Hardneck types typically have 4-12 cloves in a single circle surrounding the stiff stalk, and generally do not store as well as softneck.

Softneck types – Generally do not form a scape, and therefore can be braided. They typically produce 12-24 cloves in each bulb and are much smaller and variable in size than the cloves of hardneck garlic. Softneck does store longer – up to 9 months, however it tends to lack the flavor of hardneck garlic, having either a very hot or mild taste.

Elephant garlic (*Allium ampeloprasum*) is not a true garlic – it is actually a type of leek. The extremely large bulbs with 5-6 cloves can weigh as much as a pound.

 **Garlic Polish White** - A reliably hardy artichoke type of softneck garlic that averages 10 cloves per bulb.

 **Garlic Killarney Red** - a rocambole hardneck reputed to be better than Spanish Roja or German Red. Well adapted to wet conditions.

Garlic Martins Heirloom – A created heirloom promoted by an avid garlic grower from Wisconsin. While its origin is unknown it resembles a rocambole hardneck type similar to German porcelain types. Produces 8-10 large cloves with blue and purple striping on the skins.

Garlic Northern White Porcelain hardneck garlic producing large bulbs with fat elongated cloves. Spicy flavor makes good for roasting. Easy to peel. Stores well. Averages 6 cloves per bulb.


Garlic German Red Rocombole hardneck variety, vigorous, easy to grow has large cloves and is easily peeled. The flavor is hot and spicy. Averages about 6 to 9 cloves per bulb.

Garlic German Extra Hardy – Rocombole hardneck, very winter-hardy. Large bulbs with 4-6 large cloves with a purplish blush. When raw a very strong flavor, which mellows when cooked. Easy to prepare and stores well.

 **Garlic Giant Siberian** - Purple stripe, hardneck garlic with a hot, zippy flavor. Very large bulbs with 5-7 fat brown cloves per bulb.

 **Garlic Music** - Porcelain hardneck garlic originating from Canada that produces very large bulbs and cloves with a hot flavor.


North Plot 2 - Vine Crops


 **Winter Squash Bon Bon F1** - 95 days. Larger (4-5-lb.) fruit than standard buttercups. Deep orange flesh is smooth and deliciously sweet at harvest and after storage. Bon Bon Hybrid Winter Squash has vigorous 8-12 ft. vines. **AAS 2005**

Pumpkin Sorcerer F1 - 95 days. A high-yielding, medium-sized pumpkin. Sorcerer is deep orange, very round weighing between 15-25 lbs and anchored by a large, firmly rooted handle. Ribbing is heavy. Height 14". **AAS 2002**

Acorn Squash Honey Bear F1 - 100 days. Highly disease resistant and vigorous. This compact plant grows vigorously up to 5 feet wide, setting between 3 and 5 fruits. You will find that Honey Bear outlasts most other winter squash in the garden, still growing robustly well into autumn. Vigorous, delicious, compact, and heavy yielding. Very sweet, a perfect treat for two. **AAS 2009**

Pumpkin Orange Smoothie - 90 days. Semi-determinate bushy habit requires less space in the garden. The dark orange, smooth skin is ideal for painting Halloween faces. **AAS 2002**

 **Watermelon Sugar Baby** - 85 days. Sugar Baby Watermelon saves space in the garden and in the refrigerator. The only thing oversized is the flavor—rich and incredibly sweet. Compact vines produce plenty of 6- to 10-pound fruits packed with sweet red-orange flesh. Dependably productive, resistant to drought and disease.

 **Melon Amy F1** - 70 days. An easy-to-grow vining melon that tolerates stressful conditions from drought to poor soil, it needs just 6 feet of garden space (or a sturdy trellis!) Each melon of this unusual “canary” type weighs about 2 to 3 pounds, with a roundish shape, smooth golden rind, and super-fragrant white flesh. The seed cavity is quite small, giving you a few extra bites in every fruit. And the flavor is definitely the best part — succulent, juicy, and rich, it is distinctive from other types of melons and uniquely delicious! **AAS 2004**

Watermelon Sweet Beauty - 77-80 days. Oblonged-shaped fruit with deep green rind and broad dark stripes. About 3-4 Kg in weight, with deep red, sweet flesh. Stores well. Vigorous plants spreads vines 8-10 feet. **AAS 2004**

Melon Lambkin F1 - 67-75 days to mature. Lambkin’ was bred as a gourmet breakfast or dessert melon. Its distinctive visual feature is the smooth yellow skin with green mottling. The oval-shaped melon matures early. It was bred by Known-You Seed Company Ltd. **AAS 2009**

Summer Squash Starship Patty Pan F1 - 53 days. Patty pan squash are beautiful on their own or mixed with other colors. Smooth, firm texture and good taste. The open plants are easy to harvest.

Summer Squash Papaya Pear - 45 days. The bright yellow fruit of this hybrid adds great colour to stir fries and is delicious when sauteed. Best when harvested at about 3 inches in size. Papaya Pear is a semi-bush plant which will bear an abundance of fruit if kept picked. **AAS 2003**

Pumpkin **Marina Di' Chioggia** - 100 days. Heirloom Ironbark Pumpkin. Yellow Orange dry flesh with a thick, bumpy, greyish green skin. Brilliant for roasting, baking or making pumpkin soup. Stores for many months into winter.

Pumpkin **Jarrahdale** - 100 days. Medium to large, avg. 6-10 lb., drum-shaped fruit with heavy, rounded ribs and slate-gray skin. Medium-sweet, thick orange flesh of good quality. Long storage. A most appealing squash for fall displays and both decorative and food use.

Pumpkin **Batwing** - 90 days. The semi-bush plant produces good yields of ¼ lb bicolor mini pumpkins. A unique pumpkin that is orange and dark green color when harvested early. They become fully orange at maturity.

Pumpkin **Cotton Candy** - 100-110 days. This white pumpkin really stands out from the crowd. Cotton candy produces very white pumpkins, with true pumpkin shape and sturdy handles. Weight ranges between 5-12 lbs. These pumpkins should be picked when white and put out of the sun to maintain their color.

Pumpkin **One Too Mary** - 110 days. The pumpkin that looks like a bloodshot eyeball. There's a character in every crowd, and it's no different in the pumpkin patch. These 20 pound round to oblong fruits have a white background accented with midribs and stippled veins of red. The productive vines have good powdery mildew tolerance plus some virus tolerance.

Pumpkin **Musque De' Provence** - 125 days. Ribbed, flat, tan fruits are bigger than Long Island Cheese, avg. 8-15 lb. Thick, deep orange, moderately sweet flesh. In France cut wedges are sold in supermarkets and farmers' markets for cooking. Decorative. Late maturity. Long storage. Sometimes called Fairytale in the U.S.

Pumpkin **Orange Smoothie F1** - 95 days. Bright orange, smooth, nonribbed, round fruits avg. 6-9 lb. Nice handle. Semi-bush plant. The best painter we have seen in this preferred size. **AAS 2002**

Pumpkin **Rouge Vif' Etempes** - 100 days. A French heirloom variety. Flat fruits shaped like cheese blocks. Sweet, delicious orange flesh. Great for pies and custards. Pumpkins average 10 to 25 lbs.

Pumpkin **Queens Blue Land** - 100-120 days. The fruit is deep bluish green with deep ribbing around the sides but flat on the top and bottom. The flesh is thick dense semi sweet and very flavourful.

Plot 1 - Annuals

This year, to help commemorate the centennial anniversary of the Spooner Agricultural Research Station, we have planted a special garden plot. The common gardens of 100 years ago were useful and ornamental, cottage style gardens. After researching what was available and grown in 1909, we came up with a plan. Beans and morning glories scramble up bamboo teepees. Several herbs, flowers and vegetables happily mingle side by side. The whole is a pleasing and practical garden to feed all the senses.

All America Selection Annuals

Many of the annual flowers in this plot are AAS winners, however other non AAS annual flowers have been incorporated into this display. There are 11 individual beds that have been planted for this display. When designing each bed, plant were selected based on plant color, texture, and mature height and width. These characteristics are mixed and matched for a pleasing combination. Usually a simple layout for each bed is best.

Bed 1

Vinca **First Kiss Blueberry** (*Catharanthus roseus*) - This is the first *Catharanthus roseus* with violet- blue flowers. The 2-inch single blooms have a distinct violet eye. Mature plants will reach 12 inches tall and spread about 16 inches. 'First Kiss Blueberry' plants are heat and drought tolerant. Plants will bloom about 60 days after sowing seed. Grow in full sun. Perfectly adaptable to any container, such as patio pots or window boxes. All vinca prefer well-drained soil. **AAS 2005**

Celosia Plumose **Fresh Look Gold** (*Celosia plumosa*) - These plants look fresh all season. Fresh Look Gold is matched with Fresh Look Red for plant size and habit. Plants are about a foot tall and wide in a open sun garden. The golden plumes are held above the foliage and do not brown out. Plumes can be cut and dried for use as everlasting flowers. Group plants together for golden display. **AAS 2007**

Nicotiana **Perfume Deep Purple** (*Nicotiana x sanderae*) - Plant can grow to 20 inches in height and spread 15-18 inches if planted in full sun. Although it may not reach full size, Perfume Deep Purple will still perform well in partial shade and is a good choice for container gardens. Susceptible to Colorado Potato Beetle feeding. **AAS 2006**

Vinca **Pacifica Burgundy Halo** (*Catharanthus roseus*) - Large, unique wine-red blooms with a large white eye describe this new vinca. A new color for annual flowering vinca. Exceptional heat and drought tolerance. Mature plants reach about a foot tall and wide. **AAS 2007**

Bed 2

Gaillardia **Arizona Sun** (*Gaillardia aristata*) - The dwarf plants, 8 to 10 inches tall, can flower continuously. The 3-inch single daisy-like flowers are mahogany red with bright yellow petal edges. Uniform plant size and freedom of bloom are two of the improved qualities. **AAS 2005**

Marigold **Moonstruck Orange** (*Tagetes erecta*) - So large they hide the foliage, these golden-orange pompons are unforgettable crowded atop compact plants, 4 to 4 1/2 inches wide and nearly as deep! But this isn't even their best feature. The most amazing thing is that these tightly-packed petals seem to actually repel rain, making Moonstruck the most weather-resistant, long-lasting Marigold you can grow!

Marigold **Moonstruck Yellow** (*Tagetes erecta*) - So large they hide the foliage, these neon-bright yellow pompons are unforgettable crowded atop compact plants, 4 - 4 1/2 inches wide and nearly as deep! Bigger even than the old favorites Inca, Antigua, and Marvel, they really pop in the sunny annual bed or your best containers!

Petunia **Plush Blue** (*Petunia hybrida*) - Plush demonstrates excellent bloom coverage, and plants spread over two feet in the garden for a beautiful show of color all summer long. Plush has a compact, well-branched and symmetrical habit, so it's easy to grow.

Millet **Jade Princess** - Intense lime green leaves, controlled and mounded shape, and pollenless heads make this terrific new variety shine in the stores, and outdoors in landscapes and mixed or mono containers. Jade Princess is a "must have" for landscapers and consumers looking for plants in the popular chartreuse color group.

Bed 3

 *Campanula* **Champion Lavender F1** - Attractive bell shaped flowers do not have saucers, and last for 15 days after cutting. Strong multi stem branching plant.

Osteospermum **Asti White** (*Osteospermum Asti*) - This plant is versatile for Spring, Summer and Fall. We have bred this series to be both heat and cold tolerant, blooming all season long. **AAS 2008**

Nicotiana **Starmaker Lime** - Abundant 2 inch long and 1 inch wide green flowers that are shaped like a trumpets. Plants grow 2 to 3 feet tall and bloom for a few months, both in sun and open shade. Very pleasurable as cut material. Susceptible to Colorado Potato Beetle feeding.

Nicotiana **Starmaker White** - Abundant 2 inch long and 1 inch wide white flowers that are shaped like a trumpets. Plants grow 2 to 3 feet tall and bloom for a few months, both in sun and open shade. Very pleasurable as cut material. Susceptible to Colorado Potato Beetle feeding.

Bed 4

Petunia **Opera Supreme Pink Morn** (*Petunia hybrida*) - This is the first trailing Petunia with iridescent blooms. The 2 1/2 inch flowers shimmer as if sprayed with silver powder. The flower actually has three colors, thus the name "morn". The pink bloom shades to creamy white and deepens at the center to a yellow throat. Plants are vigorous and can spread up to three feet when grown in the full sun. No deadheading necessary. Good for containers. **AAS 2007**


Coleus **Versa Watermelon** - Use Versa coleus in the sun . . . and in the shade, too! These well-branched, vigorous plants show off beautiful multi-patterned foliage that stays the center of attention all season, thanks to the very late-flowering habit.

Bed 5

Petunia **Debonair Lime Green** - The designer Debonair collection combines beautiful flowers painted in special one-of-a-kind colors with professional seed quality. Suitable for pots, combo planters and baskets.

Nicotiana **Starmaker Red Bright** - Abundant 2 inch long and 1 inch wide red flowers that are shaped like a trumpets. Plants grow 2 to 3 feet tall and bloom for a few months, both in sun and open shade. Very pleasurable as cut material. Susceptible to Colorado Potato Beetle feeding.

Zinnia **Magellan Coral** (*Zinnia elegans*) - Improved for flower size, flower form, and plant uniformity. The fully double dahlia-flowered blooms are 5-6 inches across. The coral blooms are a "standout" color. Produces flowers continuously. Old spent blooms are covered with new foliage growth so the plant always looks fresh. Mature plants will be 15-17 inches tall, spreading 15-19 inches, depending upon growing conditions. Strong, vigorous plants needing no staking or pruning. **AAS 2005**

 *Delphinium* **Stiletta Indigo Blue** - The Stiletta series is the first single flowering Larkspur series bred specifically for cut flower use. Stiletta produces a long and dense spike with single flowers. It blooms up to 10 days sooner than other Larkspurs and produces strong sturdy stems, that do not stretch as much as other varieties. Stiletta can be harvested by pulling the stem. The series consists of 5 colors: Rosy red, White, Deep blue, Indigo and Pink.


Bed 6

Diascia **Diamonte Coral Rose** - An improved variety in a class that was relatively unknown five years ago. *Diascia* is native to South Africa, like gerbera and dimorphotheca. 'Diamonte Coral Rose' exhibits earliness, freedom of bloom and hybrid vigor as improved traits.

Salvia **Evolution** - The 6- to 7-inch flower spikes are violet, distinctly different from blue. 'Evolution' is a medium height annual reaching 16 to 24 inches tall and spreading 16 to 19 inches. Gardeners who search for plants with minimal maintenance should reserve space for 'Evolution.' When planted in fertile soil, irrigation is the only requirement for 'Evolution' to flower consistently.

Zinnia **Zowie Yellow Flame** (*Zinna elegans*) - When the petals open, their bold magenta-pink with yellow tips, and the pink gradually turns to rich red, giving you all 3 colors. The central cone is eye-catching with its ruffle of tiny, bright yellow petals above the deep red, and flowers measure 3-5 inches wide, and as with all Zinnias, the more flowers you cut, the quicker you get new buds. **AAS 2006**

Bed 7

 *Viola* **Rain Blue and Purple** (*Viola cucullata*) - Viola flowers change from purple and white to purple and blue as they mature. This results in a spreading pool of cool blue shades. 'Rain Blue and Purple,' bred by Tokita Seed Co. Ltd., spreads 10-14 inches, which is perfect for container plantings or spaces between stepping stones. **AAS 2009**

Plectranthus **Silver Crest** - A compact *Plectranthus* with smaller silvery fuzzy-textured foliage and blush white flowers. Will flower under short days (less than 10 hours) but not grown for its flowers.

Gomprena **Fireworks** - This completely unique species is hands-down the best garden plant that we have seen in years of evaluating new plants. It quickly grows to form a full, dense, landscape specimen, eventually reaching up to 3-4' tall and 1-2' wide. Tons of strong, tall stems are topped with exploding bursts of full, large 1" blooms in hot pink tipped with bright yellow. A showstopper in the garden and conversation piece when cut for a mixed bouquet.

Bed 8

Petunia **Sophistica Antique Shade** - This beautiful designer petunia combines large blooms painted in special one-of-a-kind colors. Suitable for pots, combo planters and baskets, these premium petunias can offer a unique and colorful plant for the

landscape. With a mounded growth habit and a height of 10-15 inches, this gorgeous variety adds elegance and interest to the garden from spring through frost.

Petunia **Picobella Salmon** - Nicely mounded plants with loads of petite flowers. Slightly larger than a *Calibrachoa*, this is the next generation of milliflora petunias.

Coleus **Versa Burgundy to Green** - Use *Versa* coleus in the sun . . . and in the shade, too! These well-branched, vigorous plants show off beautiful multi-patterned foliage that stays the center of attention all season, thanks to the very late-flowering habit.

Coleus **Versa Rose to Lime** - New for full sun or shade. Well branched, vigorous, long lasting color, landscapers' dream.

Rubeckia **Tiger Eye Gold** (*Rudbeckia hirta*) - Golden-yellow, large, semi-double flowers. Superb performance in the garden. **Goldsmith**

Bed 9

Petunia **Plush Deep Pink** - Trailing habit and multitudes of brightly colored 2-inch flowers offer constant color from early spring to summer's end. Looks great in containers and fills sunny garden beds end to end. Series of 10 colors.

Coleus **Versa Lime** - Use *Versa* coleus in the sun . . . and in the shade, too! These well-branched, vigorous plants show off beautiful multi-patterned foliage that stays the center of attention all season, thanks to the very late-flowering habit.

Coleus **Versa Green Halo** - Use *Versa* coleus in the sun . . . and in the shade, too! These well-branched, vigorous plants show off beautiful multi-patterned foliage that stays the center of attention all season, thanks to the very late-flowering habit.

Stock **Vivas Light Pink** - *Stock Vivas* is an early flowering series that features large, showy florettes and selectable cotyledons. *Stock Vivas* is an upgrade to the Joy and Frolic series and all colors feature pubescent (hairy) leaves for less insect problems.

Stock **Vivas Blue** - *Stock Vivas* is an early flowering series that features large, showy florettes and selectable cotyledons. *Stock Vivas* is an upgrade to the Joy and Frolic series and all colors feature pubescent (hairy) leaves for less insect problems.

Bed 10

Viola **Skippy XL Red-Gold** - The first *Viola* to earn the prestigious AAS Award. Three improvements were exhibited in AAS trials. The unique combination of colors is first to be observed. 'Skippy XL Red-Gold' flowers are ruby red with a violet red shading below the golden yellow face containing whiskers. This combination is found on

'Skippy XL Red-Gold' only. The flower shape and size are definitely improved. The round 1 1/2 inch flower is similar to a pansy, and larger than many viola blossoms.

AAS 2008

Ornamental Pepper **Black Pearl** - A handsome plant with black foliage. But the standout quality is that it looks better as the summer season progresses. The plants branch, producing more clusters of black, pearl-like, shiny peppers. The plant grows taller and wider developing into a black pyramid shape without pinching, pruning, or grooming. 'Black Pearl' is exceptionally heat tolerant and requires minimal water and fertilizer. It is easy to grow from seed, bedding plants or pot plants with fruit set. There are no serious insect or disease problems. As the plant matures, the black peppers turn red, adding a new color to the plant. While edible, the peppers are very hot. Use with care! **AAS 2008**

Zinnia **Zahara Fire** - The deepest red variety available. Bigger flowers on a disease-tolerant, heat-loving plant with very low water needs.

Gazania **Big Kiss Yellow Flame** - And there are multiple blooms! Ten to 15 open blooms are not unusual for this gazania. Loves heat and adapts to water stress. It is a bushy plant that's an excellent filler in mixed containers.

Bed 11

Petunia **Easy Wave Violet** - Exceptional uniformity and well-matched habit plus the widest color range make Easy Wave the most versatile of all large-flowered spreading petunias!

Marigold **Taishan Gold** - Larger flowers shed water well. Gardeners and landscapers will appreciate the full plants and season-long shows of high-impact color. Performance is so spectacular that the Taishan series was featured throughout the landscapes at the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing, China.

Gaillardia **Mesa Yellow** - The first F1 gaillardia from seed and the first commercial yellow from seed, Mesa Yellow delivers a more uniform habit with more flowers than other varieties. The vigorous, early-flowering and well-branched plants fill gallon containers quickly while maintaining a controlled height and not "flopping" over.

Delphinium **Diamonds Blue F1** - The first F1 spurless delphinium from seed, Diamonds Blue sparkles in the garden with cerulean blue flowers that "face up."

Plot 2 - Vegetables & Variety Trial Annuals

Potato **Desiree** - A red-skinned potato which is best harvested late in the season. It is good for baking as well as for making french-fries and potato chips.

Potato **Maris Piper** - This potato seed produces potatoes that have a cream coloured flesh. It has high yield and a good flavor. Scab tolerant.

Potato **Purple Peruvian Fingerling** - 100-120 days. Heirloom from the Andes' Highlands. The deep purple flesh makes a great presentation to any plate of food. It'll also enhance the farmer's market display. Best if roasted and then cut open to get to the awesome color, or fried.

Organic Potato **French Fingerling** - 90-110 days. The rose-colored skin covers its creamy yellow flesh. Very versatile and good for any style of preparation. Peeling is not necessary or recommended. Rumored to have been smuggled to America in a horse's feedbag in the 1800s.

Potato **Red Norland** - Red Norland sweet Potatoes are shallow-eyed, nicely rounded potatoes are crisp, delicious and easy to peel. Scab tolerant.

Potato **Yukon Gold** - 65-75 days. Yukon Gold potato is a best-selling early potato with smooth, thin yellow skin and delicious buttery golden-yellow flesh. Excellent for baking, boiling, potato salads and french fries. Flesh is generally too moist to make good mashed potatoes. Moderately good keeper and the plants are somewhat more drought tolerant than normal, although even watering produces the finest potato.

Potato **Ozette Fingerling** - Its size ranges from 3-7 inches in length and 0.75-1.5 inches in diameter. The potato has an earthy and nutty flavor that is similar to the taste of cooked dry beans, with a firm flesh and very creamy texture.


Organic Potato **LaRatte Fingerling** - From France comes this special fingerling. In appearance Laratte is similar to Banana, though a fine net to the tan skin and a nutty flavor to the dark yellow flesh set it apart. Smooth and firm texture. Resistant to scab and viruses.

A note on onions

For consistent quality and unique flavors we highly recommend gardeners plant day neutral or long day onion transplant varieties. Onions are biennial plants meaning they need two years to complete their life cycle. In the first year biennials concentrate on vegetative growth, in the second year they concentrate their efforts into producing a flower. When onions are planted as seed or seedling transplants, their first year's growth

is concentrated on root, bulb and green top development. It is with this one year old plant we get the best quality and largest size bulb. When onions are planted as sets, they are technically already a one year old plant, and as a result they split their efforts into growing a bulb and producing a seed stalk. Day length and temperature can affect bulbing and size. Long day onions, which need 13-16 hours of daylight, do best in our northern climate. Short day types do best in the south, and day neutral types grow well anywhere. Another advantage to planting transplants is you can select varieties that have unique qualities such as bulb size and shape, sweetness or storability.

Onion Cippolini - The flesh is a slight yellowish color and the skins are thin and papery. The color of the skin ranges from pale yellow to the light brown color of Spanish onions. These are sweeter onions, having more residual sugar than garden-variety white or yellow onions, but not as much as shallots.

 *Onion Big Daddy Hybrid* - 110 days. Extra-large size for a storage onion. Big, uniform globes have excellent flavor; keep up to 10 months. Big Daddy II Hybrid Onion performs well in Northern regions. Long day.

Onion Yellow Spanish - An excellent onion that produces extra large bulbs that are sweet with a mild taste. Flesh is pure white. Skin is straw colored.

Onion Tropea - These onions tend to be medium to large in size and have a mild to sweet flavor. They are often consumed raw, added for color to salads, and grilled or lightly cooked with other foods. They may lose their redness when cooked.

Onion Alisa Craig - 100 days. Introduced in 1887 by David Murray, gardener for the Marquis of Ailsa. A cross between Danver's Yellow and Cranston's Excelsior, described as "Handsome, globe-shaped variety; large, solid, with small neck; straw color. An exhibition variety." Averages 2 pounds, best for fresh use, not extended storage.


Hybrid Onion Red Zeppelin - 110 days. When grown from transplants, it will produce jumbo and colossal bulbs. Stores approximately 8 months. Globe-shaped, dark red.

Onion Yellow Set - Bulbs are flattened & have pale yellow skin. Crisp, yellowish-white flesh. Very pungent when mature. Onion sets are quick. Sets come up under almost all types of conditions. If delayed planting occurs, store in a cool, dry place not subject to freezing.

Pepper Yum Yum Gold - 55 days. The baby, elongated bells are superb in salads, the ultimate for hors d'oeuvres and unbeatable for shish kebabs. Stout plants are very

productive, packing on lots of green, 1 inch wide by 2 1/2 inch long fruits that ripen to a sunny gold.


Pepper Tango - 78 days. Tangerine colored, sweet bell peppers dance their way into your favorite recipes. Big, bold 3 to 4-lobed fruits weigh in at 5 to 6 oz. each. They look and taste great fresh or grilled, chopped or diced or anything in between.

 *Organic Pepper Jimmy Nardello* - 75 days. Turns from green to crimson red. Best sweet variety for drying. This variety is one of the more productive, disease-resistant, and most widely adapted heirloom sweet peppers we have grown. It does well in the North as well as the deep South. The fruits are multi-dimensionally sweet and intensely flavored.

Pepper Holy Mole - 85 days. Not only used to make scrumptious mole sauce, it also can be used in virtually any dish that calls for full-bodied flavor without extreme heat. Holy Molé is the first hybrid of its class and offers more vigor, higher yield and earlier ripening than other pasillas. Harvest the immature green peppers at 7-9 inches, or allow the fruit to ripen to a deep chocolate color. Mature peppers can be dried and ground for later use. **AAS 2007**


Pepper Northstar F1 - 70 days. Plant produces good yields of 4" long by 3 1/2" wide sweet bell peppers. Peppers turn from green to bright red when mature. Suitable for short season gardens in North. Plant does well under adverse weather conditions. Disease Resistant: Tobacco Mosaic Virus.

Pepper Mariachi - 66 days. Perfect when you want a blast of color but just a hint of heat, the compact 18-24" plants yield loads of 4", coned shaped fruits that change brilliantly from creamy yellow to bright red all summer, yet taste spicy but only mildly hot. **AAS 2006**

 *Pepper Carmen* - 60 days. An improved sweet pepper with an unusual shape. Most gardeners think of a bell shape when "sweet" peppers are mentioned. Not so any more. 'Carmen' is an Italian bull's horn type which refers to its elongated shape, about 6 inches long. The medium thick flesh is the sweetest when it is ripe red, but 'Carmen' peppers are sweet even when immature or green. **AAS 2006**

Pepper Pinot Noir - 70 days. Like its namesake, this attractive sweet bell shows a tremendously broad range of impressions. Light green when young, the large blocky fruits blush to shades of citrus, berry, and cherry red, displayed simultaneously for a beautiful bouquet. Firm, thick walled fruits are crisp and very sweet, with a clean refreshing aftertaste, produced on highly adaptable plants that set in cool weather as well as in hot, humid conditions.

Pepper Rebelde - 80-85 days. This plant produces thick flesh ancho type fruits that are dark green in color and changes to brown. The peppers are 3" to 4" long and about 2" wide. Can be used fresh (salsa, salads), or for roasting or drying.

 *Pepper Gypsy* - 60 days. An extremely early, heavy producer of wedge-shaped, tasty peppers with sturdy walls and crunchy, firm, sweet, flesh. A very reliable yielder, all season long. Plants grow to 18" tall. Tobacco Mosaic Virus resistant.

AAS 2001

Eggplant Fairytale - 63 days. Fairy Tale is a petite plant with decorative miniature eggplants. The fruit appearance is as luscious as the taste. 'Fairy Tale' eggplants are white with violet/purple stripes. The fruit are sweet, non-bitter, with a tender skin and few seeds. Another superior quality is the window for harvest. The elongated oval eggplants can be picked when quite small at 1 to 2 ounces or they can be left on the plant until double the weight, and the flavor and tenderness remain. **AAS**

2005

Eggplant Hansel - 55 days. 'Hansel' is a long, slender type eggplant. These tend to be less seedy and less bitter than the orb types. 'Hansel' is billed as a miniature eggplant because the fruits are ready to pick when finger size or about 3" long. They grow in clusters of 3-6 fruits and mature relatively early. **AAS 2008**


Eggplant Gretel - 55 days. The earliest white eggplant perfectly describes 'Gretel.' Any gardener will agree, the earlier the better; since waiting for the best tasting, most nutritious food from our gardens is not easy. The glossy white mini-fruit are produced in clusters and can be harvested in 55 days depending upon growing conditions. Like all eggplants, 'Gretel' will grow rapidly under warm temperatures, over 55 degrees day and night temperature. The pure white fruit are sweet with tender skin even if they mature beyond the ideal fruit size of 3 to 4 inches. **AAS 2009**

Basil Superbo - 68 days. Superbo is very uniform, has excellent color, and the leaves are thick and downturned.

Basil Cardinal - At first glance you'll think this is a celosia, with its heavy, tightly packed blooms glowing in cardinal red. A closer inspection reveals that tell-tale scent, rich and heady with a touch of spice. Strong, deep burgundy stems hold the flowers above the smooth, bright green leaves, ensuring a vibrant show throughout the summer even as you continue harvesting fresh leaves. A beautiful standout in the herb patch and a flavorful addition to the ornamental bed.

Cabbage Earliana - 57 days. Plant produces small 2 lb round cabbage. This variety takes less time to mature than other varieties. It will cut your growing time in half!


Broccoli Packman - 55 days. An early-maturing hybrid, Packman produces a large, sage green central head quickly with harvestable side shoots forming soon after the central head is cut. The 9 inch crowns of Packman are extremely uniform.

 *Cauliflower Snowcrown Hybrid F1* - 50-60 days. Snow Crown is always mild and sweet. Its hybrid vigor and rapid growth make it one of the easiest to grow of all early cauliflower varieties. It forms fully domed curds in heads 7-8 inches across, weighing 1-2 pounds. This variety maintains its prime eating quality for up to 10 days in the garden.

Cabbage Late Dutch Flat - 105 days. Maintains peak quality for months. Solid, flat-topped blue-green heads weigh 12-14 lbs., measure 1 ft. or more! Leaves are sweet enough for any cabbage dish, just right for cabbage rolls.

Brussels Sprouts - Brussels sprouts is a cool season crop, belonging to the cabbage family, and closely related to cauliflower, broccoli, kale, collards, etc. Like cauliflower, it thrives best in a cool humid climate.

Eggplant Japanese Long - This is a popular Japanese eggplant variety growing up to 14" long. The fruit is slender with purplish-black color and a purple calyx. Early and productive variety for grade one, fine-quality long eggplant. Stir-fry, grill or use in tempura.


 *Pak Choi Joi Choi* - 55 days. Also known as bok choy or Chinese white cabbage. Pak choi is grown for its stalks which are used in oriental cooking. It is also delicious raw. Each plant bears 10-14 erect stalks, 8-10" long. Grows best in cool weather. Can be grown as a spring or fall crop.

Pak Choi Fuyu Shomi - 45 days. Medium-green, spoon-shaped leaves. Very uniform, dense plants. Wide, light green petioles. 10-12" tall.

Pak Choi Black Summer F1 - 45 days. Broad, flat, light green petioles are topped with oval dark green leaves. Forms a perfect thick vase shape even when small. Slightly smaller in size (10-12") and a complement to the white-stemmed Joi Choi. Very slow bolting.

Chinese Cabbage Tall Michihili - 78 days. Classic tall light green and white heads. A must for many Asian dishes, but the nice texture and flavor lend this cabbage to many uses fresh and cooked. The upright growth is a plus for those with limited space.

Beet Bulls Blood - 60 days. The tops of this variety are quite tasty, sweet and beautifully colored. Matures in thirty five days for tops and sixty days for roots. Developed in the Netherlands from the French variety, 'Crapaudine.' Heat resistant.

 **Heirloom Beet Ace** - 55 days. The hybrid vigor of Red Ace results in better germination, faster growth in spring, more uniform red roots, and higher disease resistance. The smooth, round roots are at their highest quality when they reach 3-4 inches but remain sweet and tender even when older and larger. The bright red-veined green tops hold a long time without losing their quality for use as a delicious table green.

Hybrid Beet Red Cloud - 55 days. The sugar content of this is very high, so kids and others who may not normally like beets will gobble these up in a hurry. Plants have better top strength, smoother skin, better shape and more intense zone-free dark reddish-purple color. Holds in the garden a long time. Great diced, sliced or as whole baby beets.

 **Heirloom Beet Chiogga** - 55-65 days. Sweetest and mildest of red beets when cooked, the “Bulls Eye Beet” is an old Italian favorite. Smooth mild-flavored tops are medium heat and solid green. An impressive garnish when grated.

Radish Watermelon - 55 days. An unusual and colorful large, winter radish also known as Red Meat and Continental Fancy. It makes a colorful addition to relish trays. It's white skinned, globe shaped with light green shoulders. It is sweet and tender with a bright red heart. A real conversation piece.

Radish Altaglobe - 26 days. Disease tolerance, long-standing.

Heirloom Radish Pink Beauty - 22 days. Tasty as well as attractive, this lovely, rose-pink radish is crisp and mild. Its uniform, round shape and extra earliness make it a good choice for market growers. Large, dark red, round radishes are nice and crisp and slow to become pithy. Moderate downy mildew tolerance, strong rhizoctonia tolerance, and fusarium resistance. Medium tops for bunching

Pea Wando - 68 days. The sweetness of garden peas is legendary. The best way to stretch the harvest is to plant early and late varieties. Our most productive pea in warm weather. Also tolerant of cold for early sowing. Blunt, dark green pods with 7-8 medium-sized peas. Fine quality fresh or frozen.

Pea Eclipse - 63 days. A new generation of ‘Super Sweet Garden Peas’. This breakthrough was achieved through conventional breeding, NOT through genetic engineering. It is much sweeter than standard garden varieties and holds its sweetness longer before being converted to starch. Ideal for cooking, freezing or eating fresh. It grows as a bush, about 2 to 3 feet high.

Bush Bean Blue Lake Bean - 63 days. Sets pods from the base to the very top of the vine—plenty for canning! Straight, smooth 6-inch pods are crisp and stringless at all stages, never limp. Blue Lake Pole Beans cook up tender, with full-bodied Blue Lake flavor.

Bush Bean Espada - 55 days. Bush type plant produces excellent yields of beans. Beans are highly rated for superior quality. Excellent fresh, canned, or frozen. This variety holds its quality in the field. Disease Resistant.

Celery - Celery grows to 3 feet tall and flowers are creamy white. Gardeners can grow a range of cultivars, many of which differ little from the wild species, mainly in having stouter leaf stems. They are ranged under two classes, white and red; the white cultivars being generally the best flavored, and the most crisp and tender.

Cilantro Delfino - 50-55 days. Distinctive, deep-green, fern-like leaf structure makes it easy to fine-tune the subtlest seasoning in Mexican, Asian and Middle Eastern dishes. Slow to bolt in mid to late summer, when pungent seeds can be harvested as Coriander. **AAS 2006**


Carrot Purple Haze F1 - 70 days. Purple Haze has a sweet flavor with a tender yet snappy crunch. The 10-12 inch purple-skinned roots have vivid orange centers, which make quite an eye sensation when sliced on a relish tray. Purple color will fade when cooked. **AAS 2006**

Lettuce Allstar Gourmet Mix - 28 days. A specially designed blend based on two years of trial research to make your salad mix stand out from the crowd. Selected varieties yield darker reds and greens even under low-light conditions. Ruffled edges and unique leaf shapes provide loft, interesting texture, good shelf life, and fancy appearance. Includes varieties such as Outredgeous, Tango, Dark Lollo Rossa, and others.

Cucumber Lemon - 60-75 Days. Baseball sized cucumber variety producing bright lemon yellow colored fruits. Flavor is excellent, a bit sweeter than normal cucumbers. Plants are very easy to grow and do well in areas that have short summers, as fruits mature faster and need less heat to ripen than most cucumbers. Provide support for the growing vines or let trail along the ground. Water regularly. Can be grown in large pots.

Cucumber Armenian - 63 days. Plant produces good yields of dark and light green striped cucumbers. Best when harvested between 8" and 18" long. Will grow with a curve if grown on ground. Use trellis for straight cucumbers. It is an excellent slicer and perfect for salads.

Cucumber *Homemade Pickles* - 55 days. Vigorous plants with good disease resistance, especially developed for home gardeners. Medium green fruits with small white spines are solid and crisp. Harvest small cukes at 1-1/2" or larger, up to 6" long. Makes robust bite-sized pickles, slices, or large spears.

 **Winter Squash Walthams Butternut** - 85 days. 1970 AAS Winner! Butternut Squash can be cylindrical with a bulbed end like the "butternut" type or other shapes like flat "cheese" types. Usually tan skin. Solid stems and vines resist borers. Longest storage potential of all squash.

Annual Flower Variety Trial - This plot of annual flowers are part of a variety trial that UW Madison is taking part in. The different varieties are being evaluated for growth and performance. Not all varieties are commercially available.


Plot 3 - Berries

Raspberry

K81-6 - A recent introduction from Nova Scotia. Plants are winter hardy and vigorous. Fruit is large, attractive, and has good flavor. Excellent production. Nourse Farms

Boyne - This extremely winter hardy variety is very productive with sweet, dark red fruit. Very popular cultivator in Northern States.

Killarny - Early/midseason. Hardy, upright, short to medium-tall plants. Bright red, medium-sized fruit with great flavor. From Manitoba. Grows best in zones 3-8. Nourse Farms

 **Autumn Bliss** - Early season, fall fruiting variety from the East Malling breeding program. Fruit is produced two to three weeks before Heritage. Fruit quality in August is good, but deteriorates later in the season. Jung Seeds

Royalty - This hybrid cross of a black raspberry and red raspberry features large fruit of high quality, insect resistance, excellent yields, hardiness and wide plant adaptability. Has delicate red raspberry flavor when red and as the berry matures it acquires the rich full-bodied flavor of purple raspberries. Ripens midsummer.

Blueberries

Chippewa (2) - An extremely arctic hard blueberry plant that grows to a height of 3 feet tall. The fruits are medium to large and produce huge crops despite the coldest weather conditions. The berries are prized for their firmness, attractive color and delicious wild-like flavor that makes blueberries so popular. Zones 3-7.

Polaris (6) - Extend the harvest season with this new variety. Harvest at least 2 weeks after Chippewa has finished with its last fruits. The 3-foot tall plant will yield up to 8 pounds of berries every year.

Blackberry Trials - "Prime-Jim" and "Prime-Jan" are new blackberry cultivars developed for fall harvest. As the soil freezes, all canes are cut back to the ground and the spring cane growth will produce fruit in that fall. These are for trial, being evaluated for productivity in shorter northern Wisconsin growing seasons.

Plot 4 - Ornamentals

Golden Currant (*Ribes aureum*) - Grows to 3 feet, low mounding, leaves are bright green- yellow fall fragrant, yellow flowers in spring. Colorful yellow fruit attracts birds. Native to western United States with edible fruit.

Alpine Currant (*Ribes alpinum*) - Zone 3a. Rounded form. Good hedge plant.

Hedge Cotoneaster (*Cotoneaster lucidus*) - Zone 4b. Mounded form. White flowers, red fruits, very wide spreading. Upright branching habit. Subject to fire blight.

Glossy Black Chokeberry (*Aronia melanocarpa var. elata*) - Zone 3b. Suckering form. White flowers, black fruits, red fall color.

Hydrangea Grand Pagoda (*Peegee hydrangea*) - Almost all sterile white flowers on broad pyramidal inflorescences, 6 to 10 inches long. Flowers are borne in mid-July, continuing through August, then turning purplish pink and finally brown.

Tamarisk (*Tamarix ramosissima*) - Zone 4a. Irregular-upright form. Salt tolerant; tiny, pink flowers; very fine.

Ben Sarik Black Currant - Released by the Scottish Crop Research Institute because of its frost resistant characteristics and mildew resistance. Bush is 3 feet tall and upright. Fruit are black and flavorful.

Red Lake Currant - The best and most widely grown red currant. Vigorous bushes produce clusters of large delicious red fruit. Bush upright and 3 feet tall.

Black Consort Currant - Very resistant to white pine blister rust, and hardy. Fruit is black in color.

Pink Champagne Currant - Hardy produces long clusters of translucent white berries, blushed with pink. Plants are vigorous, upright in growth habit (3-4 feet) and have excellent resistance to leaf disease.

Dwarf Red Spiraea (*Spiraea bumalda x coccinea*) - Zone 4. Size 2 to 3 feet, form: rounded to irregular, color: leaves dark green summer, yellow fall, bright carmine-red flowers, wildlife: provides low ground cover. Dense shrub growth tolerates dry soils, shrub known for its bright flowers.

Roebeli Spiraea (*Spiraea bumalda x froebelii*) -- Zone 3. Size 3 to 4 feet, form: round and mounding, color: new leaf growth purple-green, dark green in summer and yellow in fall, flowers bright pink, wildlife: provides low ground cover. Dense shrub, tolerates dry soils, hardier than most other selections.

Smokey Amelanchier (Saskatoon) (*Amelanchier alnifolia*) – Zone 4. Originated from the Beaverlodge Research Station in the Smokey River basin in 1918 and introduced in 1952. Fruit up to ½ to 5/8 inch, blue-black with a bloom, typically 7 to 11 per cluster, fairly uneven ripening, mild flavor, one of the sweetest cultivars, relatively large seeds. Shrub 13 feet high, 15 feet wide, arching branches, freely suckers near crown and long lived.

Honeywood Amelanchier (Saskatoon) (*Amelanchier alnifolia*) – Zone 4. Fruit ½ to 5/8 inch, blue-black, typically 9 to 15 per cluster, cluster fairly tight, fairly even ripening, excellent full and tangy flavor, and seeds relatively large. Shrub to 15 feet high, initially upright to arching-spreading 10 feet to maturity. May have some resistance to powdery mildew. Very productive and precociously fruitful.

Pembina Amelanchier (Saskatoon) (*Amelanchier alnifolia*) – Zone 4. Wild plant selection from the Pembina River valley discovered about 1928 and introduced in 1952. Fruit ½ to 5/8 inch, blue-black with bloom, typically 9 to 13 per cluster, fairly even ripening, tangy flavor, fairly sweet, and fruit susceptible to cracking from excessive moisture. Shrub to 15 feet high and 15 feet wide, sparse suckering from crown and long lived. Quite productive and full flavored.

Composting

Black Gold: Compost is perhaps one of the more common amendments to add to garden soil. While compost from various sources can be purchased through local garden centers and greenhouses, it can also be made at home. The display of compost bins along with the larger three-bin compost next to the garden shed demonstrates the many ways gardeners can recycle their kitchen and garden waste. The smaller compost bins are more critter proof and easier to manage than a larger three bin system. More information on composting can be found in the information mailbox at the garden entrance.

Plot 5 - Cold Hardy Wine Grapes

There has been much interest in growing wine quality grapes in the upper Midwest. The University of Minnesota is known worldwide for expertise in cold hardy varieties. They have bred grapes for over a century and formally initiated a breeding program for wine grapes in the mid 1980s. Their goal is to develop high quality, cold hardy, and disease resistant wine and table grape cultivars. These varieties will be given the test here in Spooner to see if they can with stand our Zone 3 winters. The vines will be trained for either Vertical Shoot Positioning (VSP) or High Wire Cordon, and will remain up on the trellis over the winter.

Grape Frontenac Gris - Pronounced “gree”. This variety is a natural variant of Frontenac with light red-gray fruit. Makes a wine with peach flavor and tropical fruit/grapefruit undertones. Considered a white wine grape because of it’s connection to Frontenac. Ripens in late mid-season. University of Minnesota

 **Grape Frontenac** - Very cold hardy variety that has borne a full crop after 30 degrees below zero. It has near immunity to downy mildew. Frontenac’s small black berries are produced on medium to large clusters that are usually slightly loose. Heavy producer and sometimes requires cluster thinning. University of Minnesota

Grape MN 1200 - New, non-released cold hardy wine grape variety from the University of Minnesota.


Grape Marquette MN 1211 - New from the U of MN. This variety is a promising new red wine variety from the U of M that combines high levels of cold hardiness and disease resistance with excellent wine quality. Has withstood temperatures of 36 degrees below zero without serious injury.

Grape LaCrescent - This variety is a combination of St. Pepin and Swenson grapes. This is one of the hardiest grapes surviving temperatures below 36 degrees below zero. Superior grape for production of off-dry or sweet white wines. University of Minnesota.


Grape Baltica - Interspecies hybrid. A very cold hardy, early maturing grape selection originating from Estonia (Europe). Medium sized berries in long loose clusters. Blue-skinned berry, low tannin, moderate. Good for juice, jellies and light fruity wine with a cherry aroma and brilliant red coloring. Suited for areas with a very short, cool growing season; has potential for backyard production.

Plot 6 - Cold Hardy Table Grapes

Based on a variety survival and production performance of grape varieties evaluated at the Ashland and Spooner Ag Research Stations, the following selections have potential for northern growing. Major factors in selecting varieties for northern growing trials were potentials for fruit maturing within the variable growing season, hardiness with limited to moderate winter vine protection, and consistent fruit production.


 **Grape Beta** - Originated by Louis Suelter in central Minnesota in the late 19th century. This blue grape is very hardy, vigorous and disease resistant. It generally pushes buds around April 15th and can be harvested the second week in September. It has medium-sized acidic fruit and is best suited for making jelly. Hardy, with little or limited damage in a typical winter.

Grape Valiant - A relatively new introduction from South Dakota State University. The vine is productive and hardy, but somewhat susceptible to fungus disease. Clusters are small but well filled. The black fruit ripens very early and is much lower in acid than Beta. The fruit is small, good for fresh eating, and it makes excellent juice or jelly.

 **Grape King of the North** - A hardy blue grape excellent for juice and jelly. The vine is very vigorous and productive and ranked highest in performance within the trials. Fruit is medium-size, juicy, tart, borne on tight clusters and ripens in late September. Requires annual pruning and performs best when provided winter protection.

Grape Suelter - Like its sister seedling, Beta, this variety was developed a century ago by Louis Suelter in Carver County. Suelter is very cold hardy and disease resistant. Its berries are medium-large on medium size loose clusters and ripen 3-4 weeks before Concord. Makes excellent jelly. Requires cross-pollination. It can be grown almost anywhere in our region, and performs best with some winter protection. Cane prune.

Grape Swenson Red - The unique, fruity flavor of this firm, meaty grape is like no other. Only grapes with muscat flavor usually tie it in tastings. While it is generally red, it may have blue in the color where nights are cool, and it can even be green in color when grown where nights are hot. Hardy to -30oF. Few major disease problems, except that it is susceptible to downy mildew.

 **Grape Bluebelle** - An old University of Minnesota introduction that almost disappeared, but is now being planted again. It has very good eating quality and makes excellent juice. A blue grape, it pushes buds by May 1 and is fully ripe by mid-September.

Grape Foch - This quite hardy French hybrid is one of the hardiest wine grapes. Bluish-black fruit with a good sugar/acid balance make it an excellent wine grape. Good disease resistance. Vine has small clusters and berries. Needs winter protection. Ripens in mid-September.

Grape MN-78 - An early Minnesota selection popular early in the century as a commercial market grape. The vigorous vine produces a blue, medium-sized berry, reflecting vinifera flavor, with medium sized tight clusters. Fruit ripens early. Cane prune.

Grape pruning and trellising

Grapes are perhaps the most vigorously growing perennial fruit and as a result should be pruned and trained to a trellis or other support. Pruning is done yearly when the vines have gone dormant. Pruning removed unproductive old wood, and promotes the growth of new fruiting vines. Like summer raspberries, grapes produce flower buds on one year old vines. The table grapes are pruned in late fall (first week in November), and removed from the trellis and laid down on the ground. This is to provide extra winter protection, and insures better fruit yields compared to vines left on the trellis over winter. The wine grapes are pruned in late winter and are trained to remain on the trellis over winter.

Training systems vary depending on the growth habit of the vines and growers personal preference. The main purpose of the trellis is to provide support for the fruiting vines, and to allow for adequate light penetration, and increased air flow. The table grapes are trained to a four arm kniffen system, while the wine grapes are trained to either a vertical shoot positioning, or high wire cordon system.

Plot 7 - Fruit Trees & Small Fruits

Apple Trellis

The trellis wires in this planting are to demonstrate how trellis wire maybe used to provide additional support for fruit branches and potentially for training branches.

Apple Priscilla – A delicious hybrid from the Purdue-Rutgers-Illinois Breeding Program. Originally tested as Co-op 4. Short conic fruit, bright red finish, medium-large size. Rich flavor with distinctive licorice tang, on the sweet side. Annually productive. Quite resistant to fire blight and cedar apple rust.

Apple Liberty – (Disease resistant dwarf) An excellent quality apple highly resistant to major apple diseases such as scab, fire blight, mildew and cedar-apple rust.

Medium-size fruits are heavily red-striped and have light yellow flesh that's crisp and juicy with flavor. Good for fresh eating as well as cooking. Keeps into February, the flavor intensifying in storage. Vigorous spreading trees are heavily spurred resulting in huge crops. Bears annually. Ripens mid-to late September.

Apple Prima — First introduction from the Purdue-Rutgers-Illinois Breeding Program, originally tested as Co-op 2. Dark red blush over yellow-green. Good Jonathan-type flavor. Moderately resistant to fire blight but susceptible to cedar apple rust.

Apple Nova Easygro — (Disease resistant dwarf) A Spartan daughter from Nova Scotia breeding program. Eating quality improves with storage. Very sweet; and moderately juicy.


Apple Honeycrisp — Developed at University of Minnesota. Cross between Macon and Honey Gold apples. Well-balanced sweet-tart flavor and unusually crisp texture. One of the best keeping apples, storing up to 7 months in refrigeration.

Apple Pristine — (Disease resistant dwarf) Recently released from Purdue-Rutgers-Illinois Breeding Program. Resistant to scab, fire blight, powdery mildew, and cedar apple rust. Maturity date is quite early—late July, requires multiple pickings. A smooth, glossy golden-skinned apple with a slightly spicy flavor. Good shelf life for a summer apple. Very early bearing.

Apple Red Free — (Disease resistant dwarf) Has ninety-percent full red Jonathan-type color. The flesh is firm. Aggressive thinning is required to get good size. In addition to resistance to scab, cedar apple rust, fire blight, and mildew, it appears to be somewhat resistant to red mites.

Apple Dutchess — (Dwarf) Brought to this country over 150 years ago from Russia. Dutchess is extremely hardy and has resistance to apple scab, cedar-apple rust and fire blight. Fruit is medium size with skin color pale yellow with crimson stripes and splashes. Flavor is sprightly tart, superb for pies and sauce. Ripens mid-August to early September.

Plum Lacrescent — Small, red-blushed, yellow fruit. Excellent for fresh use and very good for jam. Freestone type. Tree is vigorous, very hardy and productive. Ripens mid-August.

 *Plum Alderman* — Large, burgundy-red fruit. Clingstone type with soft flesh and sweet, slightly astringent flavor. Excellent quality for fresh use and preserves. Ripens third week of August. New introduction from University of Minnesota.

Plum Lydecker - A new and distinct cultivar of plum, similar to a Japanese-American hybrid-type originating as a hybrid seedling of the cross: 'Oka' × 'Z's Blue Giant'. The present cultivar is unique from its maternal parent and other plums adapted to the Midwest Zone 3b and above, because it is similar to many California dessert plums (dark blue-black and nearly round) and with a superior ripe flavor to most common cultivars tested in its ripening season. The instant cultivar is also more dwarf in growth habit and has an earlier fruit maturity than most common midwest plums. Developed and provided to us by Brian Smith as part of his variety development program at UW-River Falls.

A Note on Vegetables

To accommodate our shortened growing season, most annual vegetable selections are less than 100 days to maturity. Varieties with greater than 100 days cannot be reliably grown.

Share the Bounty

Share the Bounty is a nation wide program that encourages gardeners to share their extra produce with families in need. The extra garden plot located outside the display garden fence was planted with extra transplants and seeds. Along with extra produce from the display garden all the produce grown in this garden plot will be donated to local area food shelves and senior centers.

Seed and Plant Sources

We have just listed one seed company for each selection, but many of these varieties or cultivars are available from several sources.

All America Selections, 1311 Butterfield Road, Suite 310, Downers Grove, IL 60515-5625, www.all-americaselections.org

Ball Horticultural Company, 622 Town Road, West Chicago, IL 60185, www.ballseed.com, 800-879-2255

Burpee, 300 Park Avenue, Warminster, PA 18974, 800-333-5808, www.burpee.com

Dixondale Farms, PO Box 129, Dept. WP08, Carriso Springs, TX 78834-6129, www.dixondalefarms.com, 877-367-1015

FedCo Seeds, P.O. Box 520-A, Waterville, Maine, 04903, www.fedcoseeds.com, 207-873-7333

Filaree Farm, 182 Conconully Highway, Okanogan, WA 98840, 509-422-6940, www.filareefarm.com

Goldsmith Seeds, 800-549-0158, www.goldsmithseeds.com

Grimes, 11335 Concord-Hambden Road, Concord, OH 44077, www.grimesseeds.com, 800-241-7333

Harris Seeds, 355 Paul Road, P.O. Box 24966, Rochester, NY 14624-0966, www.harriseseeds.com, 800-514-4441

Hartmann's Plant Company, PO Box 100, Lacota, MI 49063-0100, 269-253-4281, www.hartmannsplantcompany.com

Henry Field Seed and Nursery, P.O. Box 397, Aurora, IN 47001-0397, www.henryfields.com, 513-354-1494

Indiana Berry and Plant Co., 5218 West 500 South, Huntingburg, IN 47542, www.inberry.com, 800-295-2226

J.W. Jung Seed Co., 335 S. High St., Randolph, WI 53957, www.jungseed.com, 800-247-5864

Johnny's Selected Seeds, 2580 Foss Hill Rd, Albion, ME 04910, www.johnnyseeds.com, 877-564-6697

Kieft-Pro-Seeds, Holland, PO Box 63, 1606 ZH, Venhuizen, Holland, www.kieft-pro-seed.com

Livingston Seed Company, 800 KInnear Road, Columbus, OH 43212, www.livingstonseed.com, 614-488-1163

McClure & Zimmerman, P.O. Box 368, Friesland, WI 53935-0368, www.mzbulb.com, 800-883-6998

New Dimension Trade Co., LLC, P.O. Box 1294, Scappoose, OR 97056, www.newdimensionseed.com, 503-577-9382

Nourse Farms, 41 River Road South, Deerfield, MA 01373, 413-665-2658, www.noursefarms.com

PanAmerican Seed Co., 622 Town Road, West Chicago, IL 60185-2698, www.panamseed.com, 800-231-4868

Park Seed Company, 1 Parkton Ave., Greenwood, SC 29647, www.parkseed.com, 800-213-0076

Pinetree Garden Seeds, P.O. Box 300, Gloucester, ME 04260, www.superseeds.com, 207-926-3400

Potato Garden, 12137 2135 Road, Austin, CO 81410, 970-835-4500, www.potatogarden.com

Rupp Seeds, Inc., 17919 County Rd. B, Wauseon, OH 43567-9458, www.ruppseeds.com, 800-700-1199

Seed Savers Exchange, 3076 N. Winn Rd., Decorah, IA 52101, www.seedsavers.org, 563-382-5990

Seeds of Change, P.O. Box 14,700, Santa Fe, NM 87506, www.seedsofchange.com

Spooner Country Store, Spooner, WI 54801, 715-635-3236

Stokes, P.O. Box 548, Buffalo, NY 14240-0548, www.StokesSeeds.com, 716-695-6980

Territorial Seed Co., P.O. Box 157, Cottage Grove, OR 97424, www.territorial-seed.com, 800-626-0866

Thompson & Morgan, Inc., P.O. Box 1308, Jackson, NJ 08527, www.thompson-morgan.com, 800-274-7333

Tomato Growers, PO Box 2237, Fort Myers, FL 33902, www.tomatogrowers.com, 888-478-7333

Totally Tomatoes, 334 West Stroud Street, Randolph, WI 53956, www.totallytomato.com, 800-345-5977

Veseys Seeds, PO Box 9000, Calais, ME, 04619, www.veseys.com, 800-363-7333

UW-Extension Websites

Spooner Agricultural Research Station: <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/sars/index.htm>

UW-Extension Horticulture: <http://www.hort.wisc.edu/>

Southeast Wisconsin Commercial Horticulture: www.uwex.edu/ces/secommhort

The Wisconsin Master Gardener: www.hort.wisc.edu/mastergardener

UW-Madison Entomology Insect Diagnostic Lab: www.entomology.wisc.edu/entodiag.html

UW-Madison Plant Disease Diagnostics Clinic: www.plantpath.wisc.edu/pddc

Infosource Scripts: <http://www.uwex.edu/disted/infosrce/>

Gardening Websites

Perry's Perennial Pages: <http://www.uvm.edu/~pass/perry/>

UMN Extension Yard & Garden Line: <http://www.extension.umn.edu/projects/yardandgarden/>

Ohio State University Webgarden: <http://webgarden.osu.edu/>

Purdue University Horticulture: <http://www.hort.purdue.edu/ext/conhort.html>

University of Illinois Yard & Garden Solutions: <http://www.solutions.uiuc.edu/index2.cfm?series=4>

USDA Plants Database: <http://plants.usda.gov/>

The Virtual Orchard for apple production: <http://virtualorchard.net/>

NW Berry & Grape Information Network: <http://berrygrape.oregonstate.edu/>

Wisconsin Public Television - The Wisconsin Gardener: <http://www.wpt.org/garden/>

Recycle your Plastic Garden Pots and Trays

More than 80 million tons of plastic are generated in this country every year, and in the horticultural industry alone, about 350 million pounds of plastic are produced annually. In an effort to help take some of this burden off of our landfills a new garden-pot recycling program has been organized and will run thru the summer months. With this program, horticultural plastic will be reused or ground, commingled and reformulated into landscape lumber and other reusable products.

Jennifer Barton, Environmental Specialist from the Recycling Control Commission serving Burnett and Washburn Counties, is excited about this new collection and wants to invite all residents of Burnett and Washburn County to drop-off their clean #2 and #5 garden pots and trays for recycling. You can recycle your garden pots and trays in the specially marked carts located at a number of locations throughout the two-county region. In Washburn County, the Spooner and Minong Recycling Sites and the Bashaw Valley Greenhouse are drop-off locations. Burnett County locations are: Grantsburg, Oakland, and A&H Recycling Sites, and the Wood River Garden Store in Grantsburg.

How will I know if my container is acceptable, you ask? Just flip it over, look for either a #2 or a #5 enclosed in the triangular recycling symbol, rinse it out with a garden hose and set it aside for recycling. Please keep #2s and #5s separated at drop-off sites and place in appropriate black cart. If the container does not have either number, please do not recycle it. Currently the only acceptable numbered containers are #2 and #5.

Greenhouses, landscaping businesses, and nurseries have voiced their need for such a program and the need is being met in the summer of 2009! Due to the success of the program, it will be continued through 2009. For more information, call 715-635-2197.

UW-Extension North Country Master Gardeners Annual Spring Plant Sale 3rd Saturday in May

Each spring the UWEX North Country Master Gardeners Association holds a plant sale. The sale is typically on the 3rd Saturday in May and is located at the Spooner Ag Research Station. This is a major fund raiser for the organization. Money raised from the sale is used to support local horticulture education projects, including funding support for the Spooner Ag Research Station Demonstration Garden. Featured plants at the sale have been heirloom tomato transplants, perennial flowers and miscellaneous annual flowers and vegetables. For more information contact the Spooner Area UW-Extension Office at 635-3506 or 1-800-528-1914.

Your gifts help this garden to continue!

Your gift to the Spooner Agricultural Research Station will help the station continue its record of outstanding research and service to the State. Funds will support a variety of areas including maintaining this demonstration garden, as well as many informative field days for home and market gardeners offered throughout the year. Enhanced out-reach programming and facilities improvements are possible with your help. Your gift is tax deductible and does make a difference!

For more information on contributing to the Spooner Agricultural Research Station Fund, please stop by the Station office for a brochure, or call 635-3506 or 1-800-528-1914. All gifts should be made payable to the University of Wisconsin Foundation, which will hold the funds in trust to be used exclusively for the demonstration garden here at the Spooner Ag Research Station.

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Thank You!

A joint effort of:



UW-Extension Master Gardener Volunteers

University of Wisconsin, United States Department of Agriculture and Wisconsin Counties Cooperating. UW-Extension provides equal opportunity in employment and programming. Including Title IX and ADA requirements.

If you have any special needs or require special accommodations, please write to UWEX Area Agricultural Agent, Spooner Ag Research Station, W6646 Highway 70, Spooner, WI 54801, or call 635-3506 or 1-800-528-1914.

Anyone who gardens knows the amount of hard work and dedication it takes to grow a garden. This beautiful educational display garden is the result of countless volunteer hours by local UW-Extension Master Gardener Volunteers and other garden enthusiasts. Without their time and talents this display garden would not be possible.

Special thanks to Amber Anderson, Spooner Ag Research Station Summer Gardener; Lorraine Toman, UWEX/CALS Program Assistant, Lee Daniels, Summer Horticulture Assistant, and Spooner Research Station staff. Thank you to Spirit Lake Daylilies in Frederic for generous donations of plant materials.

In honor of its 100th year providing services to the community, a new century sign was dedicated at the Spooner Agricultural Research Station by the North Country Master Gardeners. Special thanks to DP Juza Wood and Fixtures of Shell Lake for donating the wood for the sign and to Victoria Zalatoris of Springbrook, Artist and North Country Master Gardener Volunteer, for donating her talents as the century sign designer and artist. www.phluffwerks.com.