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SPINACH CULTIVAR TRIALS - 1981

Muck Crops Branch
Celeryville, Ohio

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Spinach Cultivar Trials - 1981

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James M. Pisarczyk¹ and Richard L. Hassell²

Twenty cultivars or promising breeding lines of spinach were compared in replicated trials at the Muck Crops Branch in the 1981 season. Cultural information and tabular data summary are included in this report.

Cultural Information

Eight hundred pounds of a 6-24-12 fertilizer were applied and disced in prior to planting. Seed was sown on April 15 at a rate of 16 pounds of seed per acre. Plot size was three rows 18 feet long and spaced 15 inches apart, and each cultivar was replicated four times. No insecticide or fungicide was used in this plot. CIPC was the herbicide used.

Ten feet of the middle row of each plot was harvested on May 29 or June 4.

Seed Sources

We would like to acknowledge that each seed company donated the seed for this trial:

Herbst Seed Co. - America, Dixie Market

Harris Seed Co. - Savoy Hybrid 612, Dark Green Bloomsdale, Winter Bloomsdale, Savoy Hybrid 621, Melody

Keystone Seed Co. - Avon, No. 17, Vienna, Blanca

Asgrow Seed Co. - Virginia Savoy, Packer, XPH 1285, Seven R, Marathon, Grandstand, Early Hybrid, Kent, XP 3058

Results

Data in Table 1 give yield, dates harvested, savoy, color, height from soil line to top of plant when harvested. Large differences exist in the cultivars tested between savoy and yield. A heavily savoyed spinach is desirable for fresh market, whereas a flat leaf is desirable for processing. XP3058, America, and Avon held up longest without going to seed.

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TABLE 1. Spinach Cultivar Trials - 1981.

| Variety | Lbs/10 ft. of row | Replicates | | Savoy | Color | Ht. (in) | Comments |
|-------------------|----------------------|------------|-----|-------|-------|-------------|------------------------|
| | | 5/29 | 6/4 | | | | |
| XP3058 | 7.6 | 1 | 3 | 5.0 | 3.5 | 7.0 | Not seeding by 6/10 |
| Seven R | 7.6 | 4 | | 4.5 | 4.0 | 9.0 | |
| Dark Green | 7.2 | | 4 | 1.2 | 3.0 | 9.2 | |
| Bloomsdale | | | | | | | |
| Blanca | 6.8 | 1 | 3 | 1.5 | 3.0 | 9.2 | |
| Winter Bloomsdale | 6.7 | 1 | 2 | 1.7 | 3.0 | 8.2 | |
| Virginia Savoy | 6.5 | | 3 | 1.0 | 3.0 | 9.3 | |
| Kent | 6.3 | 3 | 1 | 1.2 | 2.5 | 7.8 | |
| Grandstand | 6.0 | 3 | 1 | 3.5 | 4.25 | 8.2 | |
| Vienna | 6.0 | 3 | 2 | 1.0 | 3.0 | 7.6 | |
| America | 5.8 | | 1 | 1.5 | 3.0 | 8.5 | Not seeding by 6/10 |
| Savoy Hybrid 612 | 5.7 | 4 | | 1.5 | 3.0 | 7.2 | |
| No. 17 | 5.7 | 3 | 1 | 4.0 | 3.75 | 8.0 | |
| Melody | 5.7 | 2 | 2 | 3.5 | 3.25 | 7.2 | |
| XPH 1285 | 5.6 | 4 | | 5.0 | 5.0 | 9.7 | To seed very early |
| Avon | 5.5 | 2 | 1 | 3.0 | 3.0 | 7.5 | Not seeding by 6/10 |
| Packer | 5.3 | 4 | | 3.2 | 3.25 | 7.2 | |
| Savoy Hybrid 621 | 5.1 | 4 | | 1.5 | 3.0 | 7.0 | |
| Marathon | 5.1 | 3 | 1 | 3.5 | 3.25 | 7.8 | |
| Early Hybrid | 4.9 | 4 | | 2.7 | 3.5 | 7.2 | |
| Dixie Market | 2.8 | | 3 | 1.0 | 3.0 | 8.6 | <u>Very poor</u> stand |

Savoy: 1 = Heavily savoyed; 5 = flat
 Color: 1 = Dark green; 5 = light green

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