

1993

1993 PEPPER CULTIVAR TRIALS

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Trials were conducted at the Harrow Research Station to evaluate pepper cultivars for suitability for southwestern Ontario production. Pepper transplants were grown in 200 cell trays, and transplanted on a sandy loam soil on May 25. The trial was fertilized with 50 kg/ha of actual N preplant and 35 kg/ha of N sidedressed. The trial was irrigated twice with 2.5 cm of water.

The trial was replicated six times. Three reps were harvested when fruit reached the mature green stage of maturity, and three reps were harvested at the ripe stage (red or yellow). Plots were harvested weekly. Yields of green fruit are expressed in cases (1 1/9 bu) per acre. Yields of ripe fruit are expressed in tons per acre.

Green Fruit Harvests: July 28, August 4, 11, 18, 25, September 2, & 16.
Early yield of green fruit includes July 28, Aug. 4 and 11 harvests.
Ripe Fruit Harvests: August 25, September 2, & 16.

Results

Merlin and Bell King were the highest yielding cultivars, in both the green and red harvest trials. Merlin is early maturing and produces good quality, medium sized fruit throughout the season. Bell King is later, and produces large slightly elongated fruit.

Ranger and King Arthur were in the advanced trial for the first time and are very promising. Both are good yielders, and produce very large, blocky fruit. King Arthur is early ripening and produces very attractive, uniform red fruit.

North Star and Lady Bell are the earliest maturing green peppers, but fruitsize and yield potential is not as good as some other cultivars. Super Set is still the earliest maturing cultivar for red fruit harvest.

In the observation trial, Supersweet 860, XPH 5966, HMX 7660, PS 55887 and Early Red Bell D, performed well.

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Variety	Green Fruit Harvest			Ripe Fruit Harvest		
	Early (cases /ac)	Total (cases /ac)	Ave. Fruit size (g)	Maturity Date	Total Yield (tons/ac)	Ave. Fruit size (g)
<u>Advanced Trial</u>						
Merlin	536	855	141	Aug. 22	9.4	197
Bell King	516	823	157	Aug. 22	10.0	221
Ranger	534	750	149	Aug. 21	9.0	200
Domino	523	740	163	Aug. 21	9.1	238
Melody	505	734	162	Aug. 21	8.1	232
Baron	415	695	148	Aug. 20	8.8	208
King Arthur	501	683	159	Aug. 19	8.3	223
North Star	386	667	130	Aug. 17	5.9	159
Lady Bell	434	609	125	Aug. 19	7.8	192
Super Set	354	571	110	Aug. 12	4.5	124
ReBell	346	558	138	Aug. 23	8.6	191
Camelot	414	545	154	Aug 27	8.2	260
<u>Observation Trial</u>						
Supersweet 860	625	813	142	Aug 22	9.4	205
XPH 5966	545	804	137	Aug 23	12.0	229
Early Red Bell D	440	769	109	Aug 20	7.7	142
HMX 7660	491	753	120	Aug 16	10.7	177
PS 55887	450	679	150	Aug 17	9.3	213