Vegetable Production
Research Report - 2004

Beets, Pickling Cucumber and Peppers

John O’Sullivan
Robert Grohs
Rachel Riddle

Department of Plant Agriculture
University of Guelph
Simcoe, Ontario

Report No. 44
December 2004
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Introduction

This report summarizes pickling cucumber, pepper and beet trials conducted at the Department of Plant Agriculture, University of Guelph, Simcoe in 2004. Additional copies of this report or more detailed information on any particular experiment can be obtained by contacting the Department of Plant Agriculture at Simcoe.

Note: Yields presented in this report are for comparative purposes only. Small plot yields may not accurately reflect commercial yields.

Acknowledgments

1. We wish to express our sincere thanks to Bick's Pickles (J.M. Smucker Inc.), Seminis, Harris Moran and Sun Seeds (Nunhems) who provided seed and monetary assistance for these cultivar trials. We also acknowledge funding from the Ontario Processing Vegetable Growers and the Agricultural Adaptation Council- Safety Net R + D Fund.

2. We acknowledge the assistance of Evan Ardiel, Lene Dover, Aaron Johnstone, Evan MacAlpine and Sarah Stephenson – research assistants.

J. O'Sullivan, R. Grohs and R. Riddle
Department of Plant Agriculture
University of Guelph
Simcoe, Ontario, N3Y 4N5

Tel: 519-426-7127
Fax: 519-426-1225
Cultural Information

Beets
This trial was conducted on loam soil. Beets were seeded with Almaco cone seeders attached to a John Deere MaxEmerge precision seeder and hand thinned to give an in-row spacing of 2". Beets were harvested on September 29. They were graded by size, counted and weighed for yield results.

Pickling Cucumber
Pickling cucumber cultivar trials were evaluated at the University of Guelph, Simcoe in 2004. Hand-picked trials and the Once-over trials were conducted on loam soil. The Hand-picked cucumbers were seeded with Almaco cone seeders attached to a John Deere MaxEmerge precision seeder and hand-thinned to give an in-row spacing of 6". The Once-over trials were seeded using the Almaco seeders attached to the John Deere MaxEmerge seeder and then thinned to give an in-row spacing of 4". Cultural practices throughout the season were carried out according to recommended procedures and the cucumber beetles were kept under control with timely sprays of insecticide. Plots were harvested 7 times in the multipick hand harvest trials. The once-over trial was harvested by hand to simulate machine harvest.

Fruit was graded by size, counted, weighed, fresh quality was evaluated and a sample of each cultivar was placed in brine. Brining of fruit was carried out in 225 litre barrels with air purging for 2 weeks. A panel of cucumber industry personnel rated the brined cultivars.

Peppers
All trials were conducted on loam soil. Peppers were established in the field from transplants raised in the greenhouse (128 cell). The plants were transplanted 18" apart, using a RJV600 planter, with rows 40" apart. Detailed cultural information on each experiment is presented with the yield data. The plants in all trials were relatively free from insects. Fruit number refers to the average number of fruit per plant.
Beet Cultivar Observation Trial, Early Harvest, Simcoe, 2004

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cultivar</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Yield (T/Ac)</th>
<th>Grades (cm)</th>
<th>Total *</th>
<th>Defectl Decay**</th>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Under (&lt; 2.5)</td>
<td>(2.5 - 4.1)</td>
<td>(4.1 - 6.3)</td>
<td>(6.3 - 7.6)</td>
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<td>3.4</td>
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<tr>
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**Fertilizer:** 325 Kg/Ha of 34-0-0
**Herbicide:** Pyramin 3.5L/Ac
**Harvested:** September 29

*Yields are for comparative purposes only. Small plot yields may not accurately reflect commercial yields.

**A percentage of beets in the Defectl Decay category can be used for processing.
## Fresh Quality Evaluation of Pickling Cucumbers

### External Quality

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic</th>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Blossom End (1-5)</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 = blunt, 5 = tapered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shoulder (1-5)</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 = blunt, 5 = tapered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ridging &amp; Spines (1-5)</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 = distinct warts and spines (most acceptable), 2-5 = ridges and spines too prominent or too smooth (less acceptable)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Colour (1-5)</td>
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<td>1 = medium light green (most acceptable), 2-5 = paler or darker green (less acceptable)</td>
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</table>

### Internal Quality

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Seed cavity size (1-5)</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 = small, 5 = large</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seed size (1-5)</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 = small, 5 = large</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carpel Separation (0-10)</td>
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<td>0 = no fruit with separation, 10 = all fruit with separation</td>
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### Yield of Cucumbers From Advanced Multipick Trial, Simcoe, 2004

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cultivar</th>
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<th>T/Ac Total</th>
<th>$/Ac Total</th>
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*Yields are for comparative purposes only. Small plot yields may not accurately reflect commercial yields. Note: Oversize are not included in yield data.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Soil Type</th>
<th>Loam</th>
<th>Plant population</th>
<th>18,000 plants/Ac</th>
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<td>July 20 - Aug 24,2004</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rows</td>
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<td>Plants</td>
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-5-
# Fresh Quality Evaluation of Pickling Cucumber Cultivars
## Advanced Multipick Trial - Simcoe, 2004

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<th>Colour (1-5)</th>
<th>Seed Cavity (1-5)</th>
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### Yield of Cucumbers From Main Multipick Trial, Simcoe, 2004

<table>
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<th>Source</th>
<th>T/Ac Total</th>
<th>$/Ac Total</th>
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<td>HMX 9466</td>
<td>Harris Moran</td>
<td>11.8</td>
<td>2,804</td>
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**Soil Type**: Loam  
**Soil pH**: 6.5  
**Seeding Date**: May 27  
**Plot Size**: 5’ x 30’  
**Rows**: 5’  
**Plants**: 6”  
**Plant population**: 18,000 plants/Ac  
**Fertilizer**: 34-0-0 @ 130 kg/Ac  
**Herbicide**: Roundup Transorb 0.6 L/Ac  
**Command 0.4 L/Ac**  
**Harvest Dates**: July 20 - Aug 24, 2004

*Yields are for comparative purposes only. Small plot yields may not accurately reflect commercial yields. Note: Oversize are not included in yield data.*
# Fresh Quality Evaluation of Pickling Cucumber Cultivars
## Main Multipick Trial - Simcoe, 2004

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cultivar</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Blossom-end (1-5)</th>
<th>Shoulder (1-5)</th>
<th>Ridging &amp; Spines (1-5)</th>
<th>Colour (1-5)</th>
<th>Seed Cavity (1-5)</th>
<th>Seed Size (1-5)</th>
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<tr>
<td>SXQP 2686</td>
<td>Sunseeds</td>
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Yields of Cucumbers From Simulated Once-over Machine Harvest Trial, Simcoe, 2004

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<th>Total Grades 1 - 3 $/Ac</th>
<th>Total Grades 1 - 4 T/Ac</th>
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Soil Type: Loam
Soil pH: 7.0
Seeding Date: June 24
Plot Size: 28" x 30'
Rows: 28"
Plants: 4"

Fertilizer: 34-0-0 @ 130 kg/Ac
Herbicide: Roundup Transorb 0.6 L/Ac
Command 0.4 L/Ac
Harvest Date: August 13

*Yields are for comparative purposes only. Small plot yields may not accurately reflect commercial yields.

Note: Oversize, nubs and crooks are not included in yield data.
Yields of Cucumbers From Simulated Once-over Machine Harvest Trial, Simcoe, 2004 (Continued)

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<tr>
<th>Cultivar</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>L:D  Ratio</th>
<th>L:D Ratio</th>
<th>% Oversize (by wt.)</th>
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<td>Seminis</td>
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<td>3.2</td>
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<tr>
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Soil Type: Loam
Soil pH: 7.0
Seeding Date: June 24
Plot Size: 28" x 30'
Rows: 28"
Plants: 4"
Plant population: 58,000 plants/Ac
Fertilizer: 34-0-0 @ 130 kg/Ac
Herbicide: Roundup Transorb 0.6 L/Ac
Command 0.4 L/Ac
Target Date: August 13
## Yields of Cucumbers From Once-over Machine Harvest Trial, Off-Site, 2004 (GR 1-4,nc)

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<th>$/Ac</th>
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</table>

**Harvest Date**: 21-Aug-04  
**Soil Type**: Sandy Loam  
**Rows**: 27"  
**Plants**: 4"

*Yields are for comparative purposes only. Small plot yields may not accurately reflect commercial yields.  
Note: Oversize are not included in yield data.*
### Yields of Cucumbers From Simulated Once-over Late Machine Harvest Trial, Simcoe, 2004

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<th>Cultivar</th>
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<th>Grades 1 - 4</th>
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**Note:** Oversize, nubs and crooks are not included in yield data.

*Yields are for comparative purposes only. Small plot yields may not accurately reflect commercial yields.*

- **Soil Type**: Fine Sandy Loam
- **Soil pH**: 6.6
- **Seeding Date**: July 21
- **Plot Size**: 28" x 30'
- **Rows**: 28"
- **Plants**: 4"
- **Plant population**: 58,000 plants/Ac
- **Fertilizer**: 34-0-0 @ 130 Kg/Ac
- **Harvest Date**: September 14
Brine Stock Quality Evaluation of Pickling Cucumbers

External Quality

Shape (1-5):
1 = blossom end shoulder blunt
5 = blossom end shoulder tapered

Ridging & Spines (1-5):
1 = distinct warts and spines
   (most acceptable)
2-5 = ridges and spines too prominent or too smooth
   (less acceptable)

Colour (1-5):
1 = medium light green
   (most acceptable)
2-5 = paler or darker green
   (less acceptable)

Internal Quality

Colour (1-5):
1 = uniform olive green
   (most acceptable)
2-5 = variable green
   (less acceptable)

Firmness (1-5):
1 = very firm
5 = very soft

Placenta size (1-5):
1 = small
5 = large

Seed size (1-5):
1 = small
5 = large

Recovery (0-100%):
0 = no cucumbers useable
100 = all cucumbers useable

% Recovery = \( \frac{\text{Total x (Fraction recoverable x # of pickles)}}{\text{Total # of pickles}} \times 100\% \)
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**Brine Stock Rating of Cucumbers - Advanced Multipick Trial - Simcoe, 2004**
### Brine Stock Rating of Cucumbers - Main Multipick Trial - Simcoe, 2004

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<th>Firmness</th>
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Ratings:  1 = most acceptable; 5 = least acceptable
*Is a general overall rating.
**Includes shape, ridges & spines, external colour, internal colour, firmness, placenta size and seed size.
Brine Stock Rating of Cucumbers - Once Over Machine Harvest, 2004

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Ratings: 1 = most acceptable; 5 = least acceptable
*Is a general overall rating.
**Includes shape, ridges & spines, external colour, internal colour, firmness, placenta size and seed size.
## Hot Banana Pepper Cultivar Trial, Simcoe, 2004

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- **Soil Type**: Fine Sandy Loam
- **pH**: 6.6
- **Seeded**: April 21
- **Transplanted**: June 1
- **Plant Population**: 8,990/Ac
- **Fertilizer**: 325 Kg/Ha of 34-0-0
- **Herbicides**: Treflan @ 1.5 L/ha
- **Harvested**: September 13

*Yields are for comparative purposes only. Small plot yields may not accurately reflect commercial yields.*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cultivar</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Fruit # I Plant</th>
<th>Fruit Wt. (g)</th>
<th>Marketable Yield (T/Ac)*</th>
<th>Soil Type</th>
<th>Fertilizer</th>
<th>Herbicides</th>
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*Yields are for comparative purposes only. Small plot yields may not accurately reflect commercial yields.*
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<th>Marketable Yield (T/Ac)*</th>
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Yields are for comparative purposes only. Small plot yields may not accurately reflect commercial yields.
Sweet Banana Pepper Cultivar Trial, Simcoe, 2004 (Continued)

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<td>Banana Supreme</td>
<td>Seminis</td>
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<td>77.4</td>
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| Soil Type                        | Fine Sandy Loam  |
| pH                               | 6.6              |
| Seeded                           | April 21         |
| Transplanted                     | June 1           |
| Plant Population                 | 8,990/Ac         |

Fertilizer: 325 Kg/Ha of 34-0-0
Herbicides: Treflan @ 1.5 L/ha
Harvested: September 13

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## Hot Cherry and Jalapeno Pepper Cultivar Trial, Simcoe, 2004

| Cultivar                          | Source                  | Marketable Yield (T/Ac)* | <12.5 cm |  |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|----------|
| Deli-pack Jalapeno (Large, Mild, De-stemable) | Greyco Distributers       | 0.9                      | 1.7      | 10.7     | 13.3  |
| Large Red Cherry Hot             | Greyco Distributers       | 4.1                      | 3.1      | 5.8      | 13.0  |
| Olahrio (Long Jalapeno)          | Greyco Distributers       | 2.8                      | 3.6      | 6.3      | 12.8  |
| Grandi Red Cherry Hot            | Greyco Distributers       | 7.4                      | 2.4      | 2.8      | 12.7  |
| Meteor (Long Jalapeno)           | Greyco Distributers       | 2.4                      | 3.7      | 6.5      | 12.6  |
| Cherry Bomb                      | Seminis                  | 6.3                      | 1.8      | 3.8      | 11.8  |
| Golden Cherry Hot (Apple)        | Greyco Distributers       | 2.4                      | 4.4      | 4.6      | 11.4  |
| SVR 1141-0461                    | Seminis                  | 1.0                      | 0.4      | 9.1      | 10.4  |
| PX 1141-1037                     | Seminis                  | 0.2                      | 0.5      | 9.4      | 10.2  |
| PX 1140-4682                     | Seminis                  | 0.9                      | 0.3      | 8.2      | 9.5   |
| Sara (Giant Serrano)             | Greyco Distributers       | 1.6                      | 2.3      | 5.4      | 9.3   |
| SVR 1141-0193                    | Seminis                  | 4.9                      | 0.5      | 2.9      | 8.2   |
| PX 1141-0025                     | Seminis                  | 6.2                      | 0.2      | 0.6      | 7.0   |

### Notes
- **Soil Type**: Fine Sandy Loam
- **pH**: 6.6
- **Seeded**: April 21
- **Transplanted**: June 1
- **Plant Population**: 8,990/Ac
- **Fertilizer**: 325 Kg/Ha of 34-0-0
- **Herbicides**: Treflan @ 1.5 Uha
- **Harvested**: September 13

*Yields are for comparative purposes only. Small plot yields may not accurately reflect commercial yields.*
Hot Cherry and Jalapeno Pepper Cultivar Trial, Simcoe, 2004 (Continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cultivar</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Marketable Yield</th>
<th>Yield (T/Ac)*</th>
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<td></td>
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<td>Fruit # I Plant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deli-pack Jalapeno (Large, Mild, De-stemable)</td>
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| Soil Type                              | Fine Sandy Loam         |
| pH                                     | 6.6                     |
| Seeded                                 | April 21                |
| Transplanted                           | June 1                  |
| Plant Population                       | 8,990/Ac                |

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# Cucumber Grades and Dollar Values

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*Nubs and crooks were paid at the Grade 4 price.

**Prices obtained from "Agreement and Award for Marketing the 2003 Crop of Cucumbers for Processing" under the Farm Products Marketing Act.
Seed Sources

- Christianson, P.O. Box 1788, Mount Vernon, WA 98273, USA.
- Greyco Distributers, 17901 Inkster Rd., Romulus, MI 48174, USA.
- Harris Moran Seed Co., P.O. Box 3091, Modesto, CA 95353, USA.
- Syngenta Seeds, P.O. Box 4188, Boise, Idaho 83711-4188, USA.
- Seedway Inc, 1225 Zeagor Road, Elizabethtown, PA 17022, USA.
- Seminis Vegetable Seeds, 107 Highview Ave. West, London, ON N6J 4C6
- Stokes Seeds Ltd., P.O. Box 10, St. Catherines, ON L2R 6R6.
- Sunseeds (Nunhems), 8850 59th Ave. N.E., Brooks, OR 97305-0008, USA.
## MONTHLY METEOROLOGICAL SUMMARY

**University Of Guelph, Simcoe - 2004**

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## MONTHLY METEOROLOGICAL SUMMARY

**University Of Guelph, Simcoe - 2004**

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