



Oregon State University
Extension Service

Oregon State University North Willamette Research and Extension Center: Aurora, OR 2019 Melon Variety Trials

Melons were grown organically at the NWREC Learning Farm in Aurora, OR and evaluated for early maturity and fruit quality. Nine varieties of melons were included in the trials. Seedlings were grown in the propagation house at the OSU North Willamette Research and Extension Center, power to the propagation house was lost in late May and the seedlings all died and melons for the trial were direct seeded. Fertilizer rates were determined by soil tests and nutrient needs, feather meal was broadcast pre-plant. Melons were seeded by hand on June 3, 2019 in single rows and spaced 30" within row and 10' between rows, each variety had ten plants per plot. Melons were grown in black plastic mulch with drip irrigation. Evaluations were made using the middle eight plants of each plot. Powdery mildew appeared in the field on August 15 and Savor was the only susceptible variety. Field day participants rated fruits for flavor and appearance on September 12, 2019.



Oregon State University North Willamette Research and Extension Center: Aurora, OR 2019 Melon Variety Trial Maturity						
Variety	Seed Source	Harvest & Ripeness Indicators	Planting Date	Peak Pollination Date (50% of plants at female flower)	First Harvest	First Harvest (days after seeding)
Anna's Charentais	Earthwork Organics	Harvest before slip	3-Jun	17-Jul	3-Sep	92
*D'Artagnan	Earthwork Organics	Harvest before slip	3-Jun	23-Jul	3-Sep	92
Delicious 51	Territorial/ High Mowing/ Siskiyou	Harvest at full slip	3-Jun	12-Jul	28-Aug	86
*Divergent F1	Vitalis	Harvest at forced slip	3-Jun	21-Jul	15-Aug	73
Escorial F1	Johnny's	Harvest before slip	3-Jun	17-Jul	3-Sep	92
*First Kiss F1	High Mowing	Harvest before slip	3-Jun	14-Jul	15-Aug	73
**Mountain Honey	Siskiyou	Harvest at full slip	3-Jun	17-Jul	3-Sep	92
Savor F1	Johnny's	Harvest before slip	3-Jun	23-Jul	3-Sep	92
Tirreno F1	Vitalis	Sutures develop yellow tinge when ripe	3-Jun	15-Jul	3-Sep	92
True Love F1	High Mowing	Harvest at full slip	3-Jun	15-Jul	20-Aug	78

KEY:

* 3 replicates

** 2 replicates all others not replicated



Oregon State University North Willamette Research and Extension Center: Aurora, OR
2019 Melon Variety Trial Fruit Size and Yield

Variety	Fruit Length (inches)	Fruit Width (inches)	Fruit Weight (pounds)	Marketable fruit per plant per season	Total fruit per plant per season	Notes
Anna's Charentais	5.6	5.4	2.28	7.0	8.6	
*D'Artagnan	5.5	5.5	2.77	3.5	6.2	Prone to cracks on stem and blossom end
Delicious 51	5.9	5.7	2.79	4.3	7.4	
*Divergent F1	5.4	5.9	3.28	4.8	5.6	
Escorial F1	5.1	5.4	2.16	3.6	5.1	
*First Kiss F1	5.3		2.24	6.4	8.7	Early, small, and delicious
**Mountain Honey	6.3	5.5	3.26	4.1	5.0	Highly netted
Savor F1	4.4	5.1	1.75	4.5	6.0	Attractive fruit, Susceptible to Powdery Mildew
Tirreno F1	6.3	5.4	3.07	5.6	6.0	
True Love F1	6.5	5.6	3.50	5.7	6.9	

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**Oregon State University North Willamette Research and Extension Center: Aurora, OR
2019 Melon Variety Trial Post-Harvest Ratings**

Variety	Brix	***Appearance	***Flavor	***Texture	***Overall Liking	Overall Liking Rank
Anna's Charentais	11.83	6.1	6.4	5.6	6.1	5
*D'Artagnan	13.12	6.6	6.4	5.9	6.4	3
Delicious 51	10.3	6.2	6	4.9	5.3	7
*Divergent F1	10.4	6.4	6.7	5.7	6.1	5
Escorial F1	11.58	6.3	6.7	6.1	6.3	4
*First Kiss F1	13.95	7.3	8.1	7.4	8.1	1
**Mountain Honey	12.68	6.1	6	5.2	5.4	6
Savor F1	14.4	7.8	7.3	7.3	7.1	2
Tirreno F1	10.55	6.7	5.2	5.3	5	9
True Love F1	11.75	5.8	4.7	5.3	5.2	8

KEY:

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*** Scores based on a 1-9 scale, 9=highest/best