Ethnic Vegetable Trial 1
Greens 2012

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Why Ethnic Vegetables

• Marketing niche for ethnic communities
• A taste of home
• Broader gourmet tastes of customers
• Appealing to chefs
Know Your Area

- Using US Census data to find diversity in the region
- Select vegetables based on ethnic make-up
- Signage in English and appropriate language
2012 Ethnic Vegetable Variety Trial

- The first year of the project investigates a selection of greens
- Asian brassicas and mustards
- Italian chicory and radicchio
2012 Conditions

- Weather was hot and dry for most of the season.
- Transplants were grown in July
- Plants set out in August
- Tight spacing 2-4” within and between rows for mustards, 10-12” for chicory, radicchio
- Some direct seeding of mixes
- Irrigation as needed
- Harvest in September-October
Flea beetles (FB)

- Rating on a 1-5 scale based on feeding damage
- 1 = slight damage
  2 = light damage
  3 = moderate damage
  4 = heavy damage
  5 = severe damage

Flea beetle damage = 2
Pung Pop Asian Mustard Mix

- Mix of colors and textures
- FB: 1
- Fair size with tight spacing. Height 11-14”.
- Would improve with wider spacing
- Good for cutting as young salad mix
Toraziroh

- Spoon shaped leaves on a long stem. Height 11-14”.
- Spacing 3-4”, was perhaps too tight.
- Tolerates heat better than other trial varieties.
- FB: 2
- Nice stir fry green. Flavor pleasing, fairly mild yet solid.
Yokatta Na

- Spoon shaped leaves a darker green and slightly smaller than those of the visually similar ‘Toraziroh’. Height 9-11”.
- Tolerates heat better than other trial varieties.
- FB: 2.5
- Sweeter than ‘Toraziroh’ with different “mustard bite” flavor profile.
Comparison: Toraziroh – Yokatta Na
Maruba Santoh

- Pale green, michihili-type leaves with broad, white midribs. Growth habit reminiscent of Chinese cabbage. Height 8-10”.
- FB: 2
- Does not tolerate heat. Wilted in breezy, mid-70’s weather under dry soil conditions
- Wider spacing needed.
- “Tastes ok.” - grower
**Gai lan (kai lan) ‘Green Lance’**

- Large, 6”+ wide, gray-green leaves on thick stems. White midrib. Height 11-14”.
- Young leaves useable, but grown for broccoli-like shoots. Older leaves are tough.
- FB: .5
Sculpit

- Italian herb/green
- Cool weather crop, very slow growing in summer heat.
- Best planted in early spring (mid-May)
- Elliptical pale gray-green leaves on stem of similar color. Height 10-14” when mature.
- Mild mix of ranging flavors (ex. Arugula, chickory, tarragon like)
Pink Lettucey Mix

- Long stemmed light green leaves with pinkish flush. Turnip-style green. Height 11-14”. 6” spacing.
- Leaves may darken with colder weather.
- Good stem weight, quick to achieve desirable poundage.
- FB: 1.5
- Mild, pleasant, but sharp flavor. Good for blanching or braising. “Winner.” - grower
Comparison: Pink Lettucey – Pung Pop
Shuko Pac Choi

- Small, straight choi style heads. Leaves light green with pale green midrib. Height 7-9”.
- Poor germination in the heat.
- FB: 1.5
Shiro Pac Choi

- Small tah sai style head. Ruffled spinach-type leaf with white midrib. Height 6-8”.
- Bolted under warm conditions; flowers were forming in most plants.
- FB: 1.5
Purple Pac Choi

- Green stems and purplish leaves. Height 8-10”.
- FB: 1.5
Mei Quing Pac Choi

- Bulbous shaped head. Leaves similar to ‘Shuko’. Pale to light green midrib. Height 7-9”.

- FB: 1.5
Senposai

- Huge collard/tronchuda style plants. Leaves gray-green with pale yellow or white midribs. Some leaves exceeded 12” in diameter.

- F1 hybrid cross between Japanese mustard spinach and head cabbage

- 18” spacing insufficient.

- FB: 1.5

- Used for braising and Japanese mixed vegetable recipes
Fireo Radicchio

- Red/green loaf-type head.
- Supposed to be a mostly red tinged radicchio, but variability in color and leaf shape noted
Orchidea Rossa Radicchio

- Round, green head with red flecks. Leaves broad and large.
- Wilts in heat but recovers well.
- Possibly shade tolerant.
- Needs 12” spacing.
Cicoria pan di zucchero Chicory

- Solid green loaf-style head with a smooth leaf
- 12-14” spacing
- Open seeded variety
- Leaf more serrated than F₁ Virtus
Virtus Chicory

- Tall, loaf style head.
- Similar to ‘Cicoria pan di zucchero’, but more uniform with smoother leaf margins and more hair on underside of midribs.