

# Storage Watermelon

- Yellow Hopi Watermelon.





# Storage Watermelon

- In the Southwest and northern Mexico, native peoples used the cool dry caves to store some of their food.
- Watermelons was one.
- Thick rinds, free from blemishes, watermelons could be stored for several months.
- Interest in looking at storage watermelons for possible late season sales.

# Very Prolific





# Characteristics

- 5-7 melons per plant
- 3-7lbs
- Yellow flesh with a ring of seeds easily removed
- Ripens in late August through early Sept.
- Flavor is sweet and tasty but not as sweet as modern hybrids
- Stored well into November – suitable for sales from Halloween to Thanksgiving

# First Picture of Fruit Cut in Field, the Other in December



# Future Study – A Watermelon Under Every Christmas Tree



- Will evaluate other watermelon varieties for flavor, seediness, and storage characteristics
- Will look at several red fleshed varieties
- Also will look at thick rind varieties for use as pickling types