

2016 Beet Variety Trial



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Topics for today

- What makes a great beet?
- Overview of the trial particulars
- Variety highlights
- Future needs discussion



What makes a
great beet?



Trial particulars

Planted 7/5/16

Harvested 9/17/16

Planted on flat ground beds

3 rows per bed



Variety highlights

Kestrel

Weight per 90 feet: 73.1 lbs

Percent marketable yield: 89%

Field notes: Small tops with some older leaves yellowing. Light number of cercospora lesions on older leaves. Light green leaf color. Narrower, pointy leaves.



Vulture

Weight per 90 feet: 55.9 lbs

Percent marketable yield: 82%

Field notes: Few small cercospora lesions on older leaves, which tend to turn red. Round, soft leaf shape.



Eagle

Weight per 90 feet: 69.3 lbs

Percent marketable yield: 93%

Field notes: Lighter petioles on lighter, pointy leaves. Few small cercospora lesions. Overall foliage looks sparse.



Ruby Queen

Weight per 90 feet: 97.8 lbs

Percent marketable yield: 78%

Field notes: Light green, not particularly attractive foliage. Old leaves turn purple. Some moderate cercospora.



Chioggia Guardsmark

Weight per 90 feet: 76.4 lbs

Percent marketable yield: 89%

Field notes: Foliage has no cercospora lesions. It is paler and shorter than some other varieties, though



Merlin

Weight per 90 feet: 83 lbs

Percent marketable yield: 95%

Field notes: Moderate cercospora lesions on old foliage. Leaves turn yellow and purple. Fairly unattractive leaves.



Fresh Start

Weight per 90 feet: 131.3

Percent marketable yield: 83%

Field notes: Very upright, pretty leaves with few small to medium lesions. Strong, thick petioles.



Detroit Supreme

Weight per 90 feet: 59.7

Percent marketable yield: 88%

Field notes: Darker green, narrow leaves. Very small lesions on old leaves which turn purple.



Falcon

Weight per 90 feet: 106.1

Percent marketable yield: 84%

Field notes: Light green, soft round shape, but lots of larger cercospora lesions. Dark petioles.



Fresh Cool

Weight per 90 feet: 62

Percent marketable yield: 74%

Field notes: Dark green, slightly curly foliage.
Few lesions, with purpling on older leaves. Fairly short.



Red Ace

Weight per 90 feet: 112.7

Percent marketable yield: 81%

Field notes: Taller, with light green leaves.
Moderate number of lesions



Fresh Pak

Weight per 90 feet: 113.2

Percent marketable yield: 74%

Field notes: Tall, dark green, soft leaves with strong petioles. Few lesions on old leaves. Nice foliage overall



Touchstone Gold

Weight per 90 feet: 47.6

Percent marketable yield: 79%

Field notes: No lesions on leaves. Yellow petioles, light leaf color. Typical golden beet.

