New Varieties of Cantaloupe and Watermelons

Ken Wagner Stokes Seeds
Quality Seeds Since 1881

Qualities of NE Cantaloupes

1. Large fruit 6-8 LB
2. Heavy netting
3. Slight to medium Sutures
4. Crack resistant
5. High Brix or Sugars
6. Disease resistant, PM, Fusarium
7. Not too concentrated set
8. Will work in both GA and NE

Main Varieties Grown

1. Aphrodite (6-8 LB)
2. Athena (4-5 LB)
3. Avatar (7-10 LB)
4. Minerva and others
5. Very few new varieties

Long Shelf Life (LSL)

- High in brix
- Very firm
- Stores for weeks in cooler
- Heavy netting, no change in color of rind
- Fruit ready for harvest net climbs the stem
- Hard to tell when ripe, no slip

Infinite Gold LSL

Qualities Needed for Seedless Watermelons

- Mostly 45 count melons (17-19 LB)
- Fruit shape blocky shape, small pips
- High brix and very red color inside, firm
- Dark green with light green stripes
- Resistance to Anthracnose, Fusarium Wilt
- High yield 50,000 to 70,000 LB/A
- Resist Hollow heart
Sweet Dawn
- Only available through Plant program, dark red flesh
- Early, up to 5 days earlier than Melody
- 50-60% 45, 10-20% 36 count (16-20 LB)
- IR to Fusarium Wilt 1 and Anthracnose 1
- Has shown less hollow heart
- Low plant vigor

Captivation
- Becoming standard in 45 count
- High plant vigor
- 14-17 LB average, uniform Fruit shape & size, Blocky Shape
- 89 Day maturity, 4-5 days later than Fascination
- Dark Green color, Crimson Sweet Skin

Fascination
- Industry leader, early 83 day melon
- Rich, dark glossy rind, 16 – 20 LB
- Exceptional fruit quality, dark red
- 30% 36 count, 55% 45 count
- IR to Fusarium Wilt Race 1 and Anthracnose Race 1
- 2-3 days earlier than mid-season varieties
**Exclamation**
- Very high plant vigor, 90 days, late
- 45-55% 36 Count, 35-45% 45 Count
- 17-21 LB, oval shape, hard to pack 45 count bins, very large size
- IR to Fusarium Race 1 & IR to Anthracnose 1
- Excellent holding ability

**Traveler from Harris Moran**
- Attractive Dark Rind
- 15-18 LB, 45 and 60 Count
- HR to Anthracnose race 1
- Sets well under high heat conditions
- High Brix
- Can be a little small for wholesale markets

**Joy Ride from Seminis**
- 36 count melon (30%) averaging 19.1 LB, too large for some markets
- Firm fruit with thick rind
- Lighter rind pattern, Was SV8298WA
- Vigorous plant type, can plant on less fertile soils because of large fruit, strong vine. Highly adaptable
- 11.5 average degree brix
- IR to Fusarium Race 1
Road Trip From Seminis
- Mostly 45 count melons
- Earlier than Fascination
- 16-18 LB average Weight
- Light rind color
- HR to Anthracnose Race 1
- IR to Fusarium Race 1
- 11.7 Average Degree Brix
- Uniform fruit size, best variety from Seminis, seed for sale now from Stokes

Charismatic from Sakata
- 83 day medium dark green
- 16-20 LB round/oval shape
- Good cold setting variety
- 45 Count, smaller than Kingman
- No disease resistance claimed at this time
- Needs early pollenizer

Kingman from Sakata
- 36-45 Count Melons (18-22 LB)
- Too Large for wholesale?
- 85 Day Maturity
- Has worked well in Boot Hill of MO
- Light Green with Medium Green Stripes
- Bright Red Interior
- No Disease Claims at this time
Secretariat

- 45 Count melons, 16-20 LB
- Light green with medium green stripes
- Early, 80 day maturity
- Good cold setting ability
- Needs early Pollenizer for optimum results
- No disease claimed at this time

Unbridled

- 36/45 Count melons, 18-22 LB
- Maybe too large for some markets
- Medium Green with Dark Green stripes
- 85 Day maturity, Blocky Round
- No Disease Resistance Claimed at This Time

Wayfarer from Harris Moran

- New in 2016, seed available for sale now
- 13-18 LB on first harvest
- Very dark green with occasional faint stripes Sugar Baby Type
- Excellent sweetness 11-12 Brix
- Blocky round shape, excellent shipper
- HR to Anthracnose
- More Tolerance to hollow heart in adverse conditions

Unbridled From Sakata

- 36/45 Count melons, 18-22 LB
- Maybe too large for some markets
- Medium Green with Dark Green stripes
- 85 Day maturity, Blocky Round
- No Disease Resistance Claimed at This Time
### Sweet Gem
- Most Popular Dark Green Melon
- Mostly 60 to 45 Count Fruit With Round Shape, Seedless
- 13-16 LB Fruit Average
- Rich Dark Glossy Green Skin
- Crop Failure in 2016
- No Disease Resistance Claimed

### SSX 8585 From Sakata
- SSX 8585 Seeded Variety
- New in 2016, 18-22 LB
- Excellent Early Pollenizer
- Dark Green background with light green stripes, Allsweet Type fruit
- Elongated in shape
- Seed available for sale 2016

### Estrella
- Estrella Seeded Variety
- 80 Day Maturity, Long Blocky
- 20-24 LB Average in Size
- IR to Fusarium Wilt Race 1 and Anthracnose Race 1
- Consistently high quality 36-45 Count Fruit
- Broadly Adapted, Best Seeded but seed is short in 2016
Pollenizers for Seedless

- All varieties below are not for Harvest
- Ace (Very Early)
- Accomplice
- Sidekick
- Wild Card (New IN 2015) seed for sale
- Wingman (NEW IN 2016) seed for sale
- SP 6 (Only Available thru Plant Program)

Questions?
- Thanks for allowing me to speak today!