

Watermelon Cultivar Evaluations
Lane Agricultural Center – Lane, Oklahoma – 2002

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Materials and Methods

Two watermelon cultivar trials were conducted at the Wes Watkins Agricultural Research and Extension Center at Lane, Oklahoma, in 2002. In the first trial, watermelons were individually seeded by hand into Jiffy-9 pellets on June 5, 2002. Twenty cultivars were planted. Cultivars included seeded melons as well as seedless (triploid) melons. Several cultivars represented the small, personal-size watermelons.

All cultivars were transplanted to the field by hand on June 17, 2002. Plots were 9 feet wide, and 30 feet long. Plants were spaced 3 feet apart within the row. There were 10 plants per plot, with 4 replications of each plot.

Plastic mulch was applied on raised beds prior to planting. Drip irrigation was installed at the same time the mulch was applied. Fertilizer applications and pest control was according to OSU recommendations. Irrigation was applied as needed, based on tensiometer readings.

Harvest occurred from August 20 until August 30. Since the cultivars represented a wide range of sizes, all melons that appeared to be solid, firm, and not dis-figured were harvested. Fruit counts, fruit size, and weight per acre were recorded.

Cultivar	Company	type	Yield (tons/acre)	Fruit Weight (lbs)	No. melons per acre
Royal Sweet	PetoSeed	diploid	14.18	18.5	1533
Ht RWM 8133	Rogers	diploid	13.88	17.7	1573
Summer Flavor 810	Abbott & Cobb	diploid	12.61	18.7	1331
Summer Gold	Willhite	diploid	11.87	17.9	1331
Summer Flavor 710	Abbott & Cobb	diploid	11.26	16.5	1371
5005 Dillon	Hazera	triploid	9.69	12.8	1573
Jamboree RWM 8036	Rogers	diploid	9.18	17.6	1049
Millennium	Harris Moran	triploid	9.06	11.7	1533
HSR 2942	Hollar	diploid	9.02	17.7	1129
ACX 8238	Abbott & Cobb	triploid	8.72	10.1	1724
Hyb RWM 8133	Rogers	diploid	8.01	13.9	1129
Summer Flavor 800	Abbott & Cobb	diploid	7.54	14.5	1008
Sangria	Rogers	diploid	7.29	14.9	1049
Super Seedless 7187 HQ	Abbott & Cobb	triploid	7.25	12.2	1250
Scarlet Trio	Rogers	triploid	6.48	13.4	968
Tri-X 313	Rogers	triploid	6.24	12.4	1022
Summer Sweet 5244	Abbott & Cobb	triploid	6.24	10.7	1170
Millionaire	Harris Moran	triploid	4.54	14.4	605
Summer Flavor 820	Abbott & Cobb	diploid	3.61	14.9	484
Tri-X Shadow	Rogers	triploid	0.00	0.0	0

In the second test, cultural practices were similar to those of the first test, except that the seeds were planted into Jiffy-9 pellets on June 24, and then planted directly to the field on the same day. Plastic mulch and drip irrigation were used, and fertilizer and pest control practices were according to OSU recommendations. Harvest occurred from August 20 until August 30. Since the cultivars represented a wide range of sizes, all melons that appeared to be solid, firm, and not dis-figured were harvested. Fruit counts, fruit size, and weight per acre were recorded.

Cultivar	Company	type	Yield (tons/acre)	Fruit Weight (lbs)	No. melons per acre
Super Seedless 7167	Abbott & Cobb	triploid	8.04	12.4	1291
Hazera SW1 (Liliput)	Hazera	triploid	6.63	7.0	1896
Hazera 6009	Hazera	triploid	6.03	8.2	1452
Super Seedless 7177 HQ	Abbott & Cobb	triploid	5.96	12.8	928
Sangria	Rogers	diploid	5.55	13.8	807
Hazera 6007	Hazera	triploid	4.20	8.0	1452