

VEGETARIAN

No. 36

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Several new vegetable varieties are being recommended for the year - some for trial only and others as replacements for formerly used varieties. Several formerly used varieties have been dropped. Check this against Circular 153, December, 1956.

Cantaloupe - Georgia 47 - Mildew Resistant

Celery - Utah 52-70

Sweet Corn - Several new varieties are promising - Floragold, Sixty Pak, R-8, Iobelle and Sweetangold, all yellow varieties, all have some resistance to Helminthosporium turcicum.

Three varieties have been dropped, F-M Cross, Golden Hybrid, and Erie.

Cucumber - Stono has been added for trial.

Onion - Texas Grano 502 replaces Texas Early Grano. Eclipse and White Granex are white hybrids recommended.

Southern Peas - To minimize confusion, the types have been listed together with some additions.

Blackeye Type

1. California No. 5
2. Calva No. 3
3. Ramshorn

Cream Type

1. Bush Conch
2. Running Conch (White Acre)
3. Texas Cream (Several Strains)
4. Cabbage Pea

Crowders

1. Dixielee
2. Brown Crowder (Alabama Crowder)
3. Calhoun Crowder
4. Mississippi Crowder

Pepper - Allbig replaces Illinois F₅

Spinach - New F₁ hybrids look promising - Early Hybrid No. 7 and 7E. Smooth leaved, for fall and winter planting. Bolts easily.

Tomatoes - Several changes - Grothen's Globe (Wilt Resistant) replaces Grothen's Globe. Homestead No. 2 and 24 replace Homestead. Manasota dropped.

Watermelons - Garrisonian, a new Garrison type, anthracnose resistant.

Notes Picked up at FFVA Convention

Some very interesting statements made by members on a panel discussion from areas which compete with Florida.

The panel member from Texas made these statements:

"Good vegetables serve as a calling card to the housewife - poor vegetables will get no return invitation."

"Pink tomato production is only in experimental stage in Texas."

"Having no State-Federal Inspection Service in Texas makes customers for other areas." (On tomatoes and cabbage this means Florida)

"Cauliflower plantings are very low because of low prices for freezing in 1956-57."

The member from Cuba, a native of Cuba, said: "Any increase in acreage of vegetables in Cuba will come from U. S. farmers going to Cuba."

The member of the panel who spoke for Mexican growers stated that tomato plantings in Mexico were off because of bad weather.

The representative from Louisiana talked primarily on sweet potato production in Louisiana. He made a statement I am sure we all can't agree with - "You cannot grow sweet potatoes in Florida." Of course, he meant to say his experience in Florida, which was not a true indication of what can be done. I strongly feel that off-season sweet potatoes could become a major crop in Florida.

He also said that Louisiana growers were getting on the average of about \$3.00 a bushel for sweet potatoes and it was costing them \$3.00 a bushel to produce them.

The president of the Vegetable Growers Association of America who is a large greenhouse tomato grower in Ohio discussed the winter tomato industry from the greenhouse producers' viewpoint. He stated that one acre of greenhouse would produce the equivalent of seven acres outside, ten to eighteen thousand eight-pound baskets per acre average with 80 to 90 percent U. S. No. 1 tomatoes. Don't start figuring how much money they make - their fuel bill alone for an acre will exceed \$2,000. This is of interest from a production standpoint in that it is obvious the tomato has the inherent capacity to produce at least seven times what we are making it produce outside.

Some most interesting statements were made by the panel member from California. He is a shipper and grower and has a very close working relationship with the growers he represents.

Celery, which California ships from December through July and is a very competitive vegetable for our growers, is a major crop in California. Celery acreage for this winter is unchanged from last year and the condition of the crop is good.

The California growers are changing from their present variety, Utah 10B (which brings a premium on eastern markets) to Tall Utah 52-70 because in sample shipments this past season 52-70 brought \$1.00 a crate more than their present variety. This will be for midwinter and spring harvest only.

Another interesting statement was that potatoes shipped in 50-pound cartons, which increased their unit cost 40 cents over 50 pound bags, earned the difference on eastern markets because of better acceptance and lower losses in shipment. Thirty pound and fifty pound units sold better than 100 pound units.

Mr. George Wedgeworth was the panel member from Florida and he used his time to ask questions of the other panel members. Some of the answers I have quoted above.

Sincerely,

Mason E. Marvel

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