

## 2003 ON-FARM PEPPER CULTIVAR TRIAL

*Cerny Farm, Cobden, IL*

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A pepper cultivar trial was established and evaluated at the Cerny Farm in Cobden, Illinois. This trial gives a comparison in pepper production between plants grown on bare dirt with no irrigation versus the plasticulture system utilized in the DSAC pepper trial. The plants used in this observation trial were grown at the Dixon Springs Agricultural Center and field set at the Cerny Farm on May 9, 2003. The plots consisted of 12 plants in a single row with a spacing of 30 inches apart in rows 5 feet apart. Without accounting for field roads, this results in an approximate population of 5808 plants per acre. The plots were harvested six times: July 17, 24, 31 and August 8, 19, 25.

We wish to express our appreciation for the cooperation of the Cerny Farm in this trial and thank the seed companies for their donations.

Table 1 shows total yield in pounds per plant and bushels per acre in descending order for all 15 varieties.

Table 1. Total yield for the 15 pepper varieties.

<b>Variety</b>	<b>Color</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Size</b>	<b>Total Yield</b>	
			(oz)	( lbs/plant )	( bushels/acre )
Lafayette	G → Y	SW	7.2	2.6	604
X3R Camelot	G → R	SW	6.1	2.5	581
Emerald Isle *	G → R	HR	5.6	2.5	581
Crusader	G → R	RG	6.1	2.3	534
Patriot	G → R	SW	7.0	2.1	488
Brigadier	G → R	RG	6.6	2.1	488
Legionnaire	G → R	RG	6.5	2.1	488
Paladin*	G → R	RG	6.0	2.0	465
Sir Galahad	G → R	SW	6.8	1.9	441
Valencia	G → O	SW	6.0	1.9	441
Colossal	G → R	SW	6.2	1.8	418
Tequila	Y→Purp→R	SW	4.4	1.8	418
Peninsula	G → R	SW	6.7	1.7	395
Commandant	G → R	SW	5.7	1.6	372
Mavras	G→Choc→R	SW	5.7	1.5	348

\* Phytophthora resistant varieties