

**EVALUATION OF SUMMER SQUASH CULTIVARS
FOR SOUTHERN OHIO, 2005**

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This cultivar trial evaluated 11 cultivars for their suitability in southern Ohio.

METHODS:

Seeds were planted June 21, 2004, on raised beds (double rows 12" apart, 18" in row) covered with black plastic mulch with trickle irrigation under the plastic. Plots Rows were 5 foot apart. Experimental design was randomized complete block with 4 replications. The field is located in southern Ohio, at the Ohio State University South Centers research and demonstration plots. Located at Southern State Community College in Hillsboro, Ohio. 120 units of N were applied prior to laying the plastic mulch. A standard commercial fungicide and insecticide program following OSU Bulletin #672, The Vegetable Production Guide, was followed, on a 7-10 day schedule. Harvest began on July 28th and final harvest was September 2nd, 2004.

RESULTS:

Although severe drought and heavy fungal disease pressure was experienced throughout the season, plant health and fruit remained good through the season with average fruit set and yield across cultivars. Total season marketable yield ranged from 2753-7791 ½ - bushel cartons/acre. Cougar, Payroll, Fortune and Agriset were the top four performers for the season as a whole.

2005 Squash Totals

<u>Cultivar</u>	<u>Seed Source</u>	<u>1/2 Bushel Boxes per Acre</u>				<u>Average Fruit</u>	
		<u>Small</u>	<u>Medium</u>	<u>Large</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Wt.</u>	<u>Type</u>
Cougar	HR	1813	3010	2968	7791	0.65	Yellow
Payroll	RG	1103	2836	3593	7533	0.72	Green
Fortune	RG	2139	2657	2361	7158	0.57	Yellow
Agriset	SW	1239	2355	2974	6569	0.76	Green
Cashflow	RG	1338	2456	2582	6377	0.67	Green
Robuster	NE	1253	2484	2580	6318	0.72	Green
Monitor	SS	1041	2002	3076	6120	0.69	Green
Lioness	SW	1017	2002	2844	5864	0.63	Yellow
Magnum	SW	962	1915	2463	5341	0.71	Green
Sitos	SS	508	1150	2099	3759	0.67	Green
Loopard	NE	635	1178	939	2753	0.66	Green
LSD		463	766	1127	1657	0.0588	