

# Evaluation of Bell Pepper Cultivars for Southern Ohio, 2007

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This cultivar trial evaluated eight bell pepper cultivars for their suitability in southern Ohio.

## Methods

Seeds were planted April 14 in the greenhouse. Plants were transplanted to raised beds covered with black plastic on May 31 using a waterwheel transplanter. There was trickle irrigation under the plastic. Plots rows were 6 feet apart. Experimental design was a randomized complete block with three replications. One hundred units of N, P, and K were applied before forming beds and laying plastic mulch. A standard commercial fungicide and insecticide program was followed, following OSU Bulletin #672.

## Results

There was no effect of treatment on the number of medium, large, or select fruit per acre.

There was a significant effect on total fruit per acre. 'BSS 518' and 'HMX 6646' were not significantly different from each other (127,381 and 105,476 total fruit respectively). 'Wahoo,' 'HMX 7648,' and 'Alliance' were not significantly different from each other (78,333, 75,238, and 74,048 total fruit respectively) but were different from 'BSS 518' and 'HMX 6646' (LSD=22865). 'HMX 6646,' 'Polaris,' 'Revolution,' and 'HMX 6644' were intermediate and did not differ from each other.

'BSS 518' produced the most small fruit pounds per acre (24,336). 'HMX 6646,' 'HMX 6644,' and 'Polaris' produced the next greatest amount of small pounds per acre (15,581-19,079). 'Alliance,' 'HMX 7648,' 'Wahoo,' and 'Revolution' produced the fewest pounds of small fruit per acre (10,880-13,026). There was no effect of variety on production of pounds of medium, large, or select fruit per acre.

There was a slight effect of variety on total pounds of pepper produced per acre. 'HMX 6646' and 'BSS 518' were not statistically different from each other and produced 42,673 and 41,064 pounds per acre. 'Wahoo,' 'HMX 7648,' and 'Alliance' produced the fewest pounds per acre (30,076-31,133). The least significant difference for total pounds per acre was 9,405 pounds.

There was a highly significant effect of treatment on average fruit weight. 'Alliance,' 'HMX 7648,' 'Polaris,' 'Revolution,' and 'HMX 6646' had an average weight of 0.4-0.42 pounds. 'HMX 6644' and 'Wahoo' had an average weight of 0.38 pound. 'BSS 518' had an average weight of 0.32 pound.

## **Bell Pepper Cultivars in 2007 Trial**

1. BSS 518
2. Revolution
3. Alliance
4. HMX 6646
5. HMX 6644
6. Wahoo
7. HMX 7648
8. Polaris