

<b>RESULTS FOR: Winter Squash, Butternut Trial Evaluation 2013</b> Number of Trial Results Submitted: 10	Waltham	Early Butternut	Avalon	Pilgrim
Germination: How many plants were alive 3 weeks after planting?	Most	Most	Medium	Medium
Fruit shape	Typical	Typical	Typical	Typical
Fruit color	Tan	Tan	Tan	Tan
Yield (fruit count) – Average number	6.4	6.8	10.7	5.2
First harvest date - Most gardeners harvested all varieties at same time	Same	Same	Same	Same
Plant size : 1= overrunning, 2= acceptable, 3 = small Average rating	2	2.2	2	2.6
Cooked Flavor – Average rating 1=outstanding,2=acceptable, 3=poor	1.5	1.75	1.75	1.67
Texture – Average rating 1= excellent, 2 = good, 3 = poor	1.25	1.5	1.75	1.67
Diseases: Average rating 1= none, 2 = some, 3 = heavy infection	1.75	1.5	1.6	1.5
Insects: Average rating 1 = none, 2 = some, 3 = heavy infestation	2	2.5	2.6	2.5
Would you purchase this variety again?	83% Yes	43% Yes	67% Yes	60% Yes
Please rank from 1 = best to 4 = least				
Comments: (include insects identified, other growing problems)				

Summary:

Results of the squash trial were varied, perhaps because of the late start to a challenging growing season. There were many gardeners with germination and survival problems, but it was with all varieties. Each variety had highs and lows in each

category. Avalon had the most production in most cases, but some gardeners had more production with other varieties than they did with Avalon. Likewise with plant size, indicating that growing conditions such as soil fertility and water availability likely affected results. Squash bugs were the most common insect, and they affected all varieties equally. Only a few disease problems were reported, and they also affected all varieties equally.

Waltham: Eighty-three percent of gardeners would grow this variety again. Production, flavor and texture were ranked high.

Early Butternut: Only 43% of gardeners would grow this again. It ranked lower for flavor and texture, as well as production.

Avalon: Eighty-three percent of gardeners would grow this again. Production was highest but it ranked slightly lower (though still acceptable) on flavor and texture.

Pilgrim: Sixty percent of gardeners would grow this again. Overall, the plants were smaller, and flavor and texture were acceptable.