

Maui Vegetable Notes

October 2, 1989

CUCURBIT VIRUS RESISTANT TRIAL

Because the original trial did not have any viral infection on any of the cultivar tried, the second trial was initiated in May and concluded in August. The cultivars tried were Lani (UH), Milo (UH), Dasher II (Peto), Sweet Slice (Peto) and Garden Salad (Peto).

Of the five cultivars, Milo, Lani and Dasher II developed symptom of a virus in mid-August. The specimen of these cultivars were sent to the Plant Disease Clinic and the virus was identified as the Zucchini Yellow Mosaic Virus. The Watermelon Mosaic Virus 1 was not present in this trial.

Both Garden Salad and Sweet Slice did not show any symptom of the virus.

TOMATO SPOTTED WILT VIRUS RESISTANT TRIAL

Dr. John Cho had began his tomato cultivar trial to determine the resistance to the Tomato Spotted Wilt Virus (TSWV). The trial is being conducted at the Kula Ag-park Station. He has 7 cultivars from Peto Seed Company. Two cultivars, Roma and Celebrity, are used as check in this trial.

I had received three cultivars of tomato from Argentina which is resistant to the TSWV. Dr. Cho will be testing these cultivars to see if they are resistant to the virus.

THE KULA SPOTTED WILT NEWSLETTER

The Kula Spotted Wilt Newsletter will be discontinued temporarily due to Julianne Ruben's resignation. The newsletter will be resumed when a replacement is hired for the position. Our thanks to Julianne for an excellent job she did with the newsletter.

CHINESE CABBAGE VARIETY TRIAL

Another Chinese Cabbage variety trial will be initiated shortly at the Kula Ag-park Station. Only 6 cultivars will be tried, 55, WR-60 Green, Hy-Mark, WR 60, China Express and China Flash. China Flash is being included in this trial because it is a new release from Sakata which is resistant to both external and internal tip-burn.

On my recent visit to Sakata Seed America, Inc., I visited the vegetable variety trial that was conducted for the clientele. I was very impressed with a new Chinese Cabbage variety, SSC9206. Unfortunately, seeds of this new hybrid was not available at the research station. I will writing to Sakata for sample seeds and hope to incorporate it into the next Chinese Cabbage variety trial.

MOMOTARO. TOMATO HYBRID FROM TAKII SEED COMPANY

In one of the farm visits on my tour to California, Mr. Nagotoshi of Nagotoshi Farm commented on the above tomato hybrid which he had planted in his greenhouse (like our Hawaiian greenhouse). Mr. Nagotoshi harvest the fruit

vine-ripen. I was very impressed with the quality of the fruits. They were firm and the flavor was excellent. He commented that he market the tomato as a speciality crop and receive \$1.00 per fruit.

Richard Nakano, my counterpart in Kamuela, told me that some of the growers in Kona are planting this hybrid both indoors and out in the fields. He also commented that the seeds of this hybrid is sold individually, that is, the cost per seed.

I will be writing to Takii Seed Company for more information on this hybrid.

ONION TRIAL

A trial to determine the best growing season of the Maui Onion was initiated on July. The three main varieties of onion, Granex F-1, Granex 33 and Grano 1015Y, will be planted monthly for 1 year. Three different elevations will be used, Kula Experiment Station, Pulehu Sub-station and the Kula Ag-park Station. The seedlings of the first planting were transplanted at the various elevations. harvesting of this planting is estimated to be about late December of this year. You are welcome to visit the various sites of this trial.

PROMOTION OF VEGETABLES

There many articles on the virtues of vegetables with the high content of fiber and vitamins which may help to prevent cancer. I had visited the Livingston Farm Association in Livingston, CA., and saw the Sweet Potato Packing Plant.

Beside the logo of the association on the fiber carton, there was the listing of the nutritional values of the sweet potato. Can this concept of promotion be incorporated in the Island Fresh promotion?

LEAFMINER ATTACKING MIDRIBS AND ROOTS OF DAIKON AND BEET

Randy Hamasaki, County Extension Agent on Oahu, reported that the pea leafminer (*Liriomyza huidobrensis*) had cause severe damage on the above crops in Waianae. This pest is also cause damages on celery and Kula Onion on Maui. It is known that this pest is resistant to many chemical insecticides, therefor, control is difficult.

SOMETHING FOR THE FUTURE

According to U.S. Department of Agriculture scientists, vegetables can stay fresher two to three times longer if they are wrapped immediately after harvest in plastic films that allow the produce to "breathe". The plastic film that is being tested is more permeable to gases. This quality allows the vegetables to breathe, take in needed oxygen and get rid of excess carbon dioxide and ethylene. Crops tested were broccoli which look and taste good after three weeks, tomato (4 weeks), peppers (3 to 4 weeks), cucumber and eggplant (2 weeks at room temperature). (1988 Produce Marketing Association Yearbook)

NEW HEAD CABBAGE CULTIVAR

I had an opportunity to visit Sakata Seed America in Salinas on September 12 and met with the director of research, Mr. Kojima. I mentioned about the cabbage variety trial which I had conducted and that Sakata YR-25 gave excellent result. Mr. Kojima commented that YR-25 is now commercially available under the name of PACIFICA. For more information on this cabbage hybrid and for a seed catalog, write to Sakata Seed America, Inc. P.O. Box 877, 18095 Serene Drive, Morgan Hill, CA., 95037.

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