

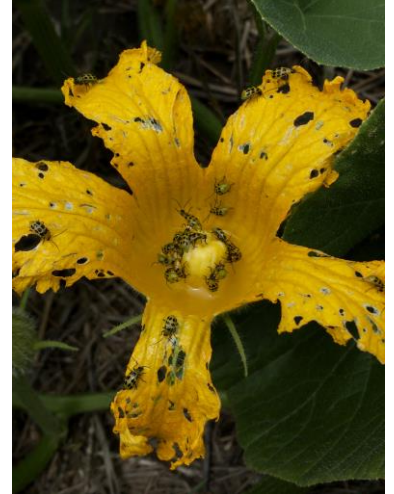
# Pumpkin Variety Trial – 2024

Kansas State University – John C. Pair Horticultural Center

In 2022 the USDA Census of Agriculture reported Kansas grew 781 acres of pumpkins on 149 farms. Our goal was to evaluate commercially available varieties in a field plot in South-Central KS.

## Methods

- Following wheat harvest, weeds were terminated with glyphosate
- Stubble was mowed with a flail mower creating a dense mulch
- June 21 - Pumpkin seed planted through mulch into soil
  - 1-in deep, 2-ft spacing in-row, 10-ft between rows
- Pre-emergent herbicide applied between rows the day after planting
  - Oryzalin at 3 qt/A – Overhead irrigated to activate
- Drip irrigation utilized as needed to prevent drought stress
- Urea (46-0-0) at 50 lbs/A nitrogen applied when plants began to vine
- Frequent scouting to detect insect pests and disease
- Spot spray with glyphosate between rows to control escaped weeds
- Harvest began on Sept. 4 and finished Oct. 1
- Number of pumpkins per plot and weight of 10 pumpkins was recorded



Damage caused by spotted cucumber beetle.

### Insect control:

- August 24 - Spotted cucumber beetle and squash bug
- Bifenthrin at 4.2 oz/10 gal water using air-blast sprayer

### Powdery Mildew Control:

- August 27 - Topsin-M at ½ lbs/A using air-blast sprayer
- August 30 - Abound at 12 oz/A using air-blast sprayer

## Yield

- Weight ranged from 20,000 – 80,000 lbs/A
- Number of pumpkins ranged from 2,100 – 9,300/A
- Small varieties produced the largest number of pumpkins
- Larger varieties yielded the most weight



Squash bug with egg cluster.

## Observations

- With proper scouting and timing, one insecticide application was sufficient.
- Powdery mildew was insignificant and likely did not affect yield
- Pre-emergent weed control was effective. Primary escapes were Palmer Amaranth and Tumble Pigweed.

**K-STATE**  
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Bellatrix



Blanco



Fireball



Grizzley Bear



Hermes



Jarrahdale



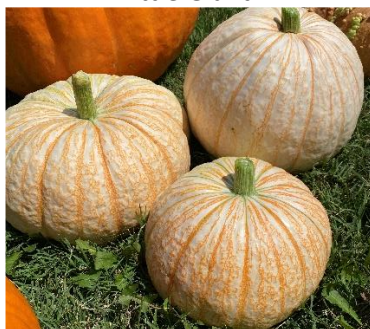
Little Giant



Mellow Yellow



Moranga



One Too Many



Sunrise

Variety	Number/A	Ave Wt (lbs)	Variety	Number/A	Ave Wt (lbs)
Bellatrix	2396	14	Little Giant	8639	2
Blanco	9365	5	Mellow Yellow	5590	11
Fireball	6679	7	Moranga	5009	7
Grizzley Bear	6607	6	One Too Many	2178	16
Hermes	4501	12	Sunrise	5663	14
Jarrahdale	2759	17			