

**UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE**



**SEEDLESS WATERMELON  
VARIETY TRIAL RESULTS  
2012**

**Gordon Johnson & Emmalea Ernest**

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**University of Delaware  
Elbert N. & Ann V. Carvel Research and Education Center  
16483 County Seat Highway  
Georgetown, DE 19947**

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## **2012 University of Delaware Seedless Watermelon Variety Trial**

Gordon Johnson & Emmalea Ernest

University of Delaware

Elbert N. & Ann V. Carvel Research and Education Center

16483 County Seat Highway

Georgetown, DE 19947

(302) 856-7303    [gjohn@udel.edu](mailto:gjohn@udel.edu)    [emmalea@udel.edu](mailto:emmalea@udel.edu)

### **Introduction**

The 2012 Seedless Watermelon Variety Trial included 33 varieties from nine participating companies. The purpose of this trial is to evaluate seedless watermelon varieties for yield, quality and maturity.

### **Materials and Methods**

#### ***Location***

Dill Farm field 2 at the University of Delaware Research and Education Center Farm, Georgetown, DE.

#### ***Cultural Practices***

Field was fertilized according to soil test results. Prefar (bensulide) at 6 qt/A + Sandea (halosulfuron) at 0.5 oz/A + 33 lbs/A of nitrogen (30% UAN) was applied after the beds had been shaped and before black plastic mulch and trickle irrigation were laid on 7' centers.

There were 33 entries in the trial this year. Plants were seeded in the greenhouse on April 11, 2012 and transplanted to the field on May 17, 2012. Field plots were one row (7 ft) wide and 30 ft long. Plots were arranged in a randomized complete block design with three replications. In-row spacing was 3ft or 10 plants per plot. A total of three plants of the in-row pollenizer variety 'Accomplice' were planted in each plot: between the second and third plants, the fifth and sixth plants, and the eighth and ninth plants. The border rows next to the drive rows, which separated the replications, were planted in the triploid variety 'SS 9651', with the 'Accomplice' as the pollenizer, in the same arrangement as the experimental plots. 'SS 9651' has a solid medium green rind and was easily distinguishable from the trial entries.

An application of Gramoxone 1.5 pt/A + Sandea (halosulfuron) 0.6 oz/A + Sinbar (terbacil) 2 oz/A was made to the row middles on June 8 with a hooded sprayer. Vines were turned before this application as they had just started to run off of the plastic. Applications for disease and insect control were as follows:

June 8: Initiate (chlorothalonil) 2 pt/A + Oberon (spiromesifen) 8 oz/A

June 16: Initiate 2 pt/A + Sniper (bifenthrin) 4 oz/A

June 24: Initiate 2 pt/A + Sniper 4 oz/A

June 16: Initiate 2 pt/A + Inspire Super (difenoconazole + cyproinil) 20 oz/A

July 6: Initiate 3 pt/A + Oberon 8.5 oz/A + Assail (acetamiprid) 4 oz/A

July 13: Initiate 3 pt/A + Inspire Super 20 oz/A + Hero (zeta-cypermethrin+bifenthrin) 10 oz/A

July 20: Initiate 3 pt/A + Warrior II (lambda-cyhalothrin) 2 oz/A

July 27: Sniper 6 oz/A

July 29: Initiate 3 pt/A + Previcur Flex (propamocarb hydrochloride) 1.2 pt/A

August 3: Initiate 3 pt/A + Quadris (azoxystrobin) 15.5 fl oz/A

August 18: Initiate 3 pt/A + Previcur Flex 1.2 pt/A

August 25: Initiate 3 pt/A + Ranman (cyazofamid) 2.75 oz/A + Monsoon (tebuconazole) 1 qt/A

The trial was fertigated with 6-0-6 (40 lb/A of N) on June 5, with 8-2-8 (40 lbs/A of N) on June 26 and with 8-2-8 (50 lbs/A of N) on August 2.

### ***Harvest***

Fruit were harvested four times: on July 26, on August 9, on August 21 & 23, and on September 6 & 12. The weight of each watermelon harvested was recorded individually. Five marketable watermelons from each plot were cut and evaluated for presence of hollow heart and soluble solids levels. Soluble solids were measured using a hand-held refractometer and hollow heart cracks were measured at their widest point with a metric ruler.

### **Results**

Total yield, marketable yield excluding misshapen culls and fruit less than 7 lbs (Marketable Yield I) and marketable yield excluding misshapen culls, fruit less than 7 lbs and fruit over 24 lbs (Marketable Yield II) are reported in Table 1 in both pounds per acre and fruit per acre for each variety. Watermelons less than 7 lbs were not excluded from the yield of Ladybelle, a mini watermelon variety. The highest yielding varieties in the trial in terms of Marketable Yield II in lbs/A were Maxima, SS 7187, Troubadour, SS 7387, SugaRed, ACX 6177, Tri-X 313, Crunchy Red, WDL-408, Crisp n Sweet, and Sweet Polly. SS 7187 and Crunchy Red also performed well in the 2008 and 2010 variety trials. SugaRed was first trialed in 2010 and was one of the top yielding varieties in that year. Crisp n Sweet was trialed in 2008 and was a top yielding variety in that year. Troubadour was trialed in 2010 and was not among the highest yielding varieties. Maxima, SS 7387, ACX 6177, WDL-408 and Sweet Polly were new to our trials this year and show potential for high yields in our area. The standard variety Tri-X 313 continues to produce good yields in our trials.

Total Marketable Yield I of each variety, as well as Marketable Yield I in for each of the four harvests, are reported in Table 2 in lbs/A and in Table 3 in fruit/A. Table 4 reports the percent of total harvest for the four harvests. This year, the first harvest was later than typical for this trial (70 DAT versus the usual ~60 DAT) and the yield at first harvest was higher than usual. The first harvest was probably delayed because of early season stress to the field from heat, dry weather and spider mites, which caused the earliest varieties to be delayed. The second and third harvests were nominal, for most varieties as yield had been concentrated in the first harvest. The fourth harvest was the largest of the season, which is also not typical. SS 7167, SS 7387 and WDL-408 had the highest yields in the first harvest. SS 7387, Maxima and SS 7187 had the highest cumulative yields at the end of the third harvest.

Table 5 lists the varieties according to average fruit weight and gives the percentage of fruit in each of five weight classes: <8 lbs, 8-14 lbs, 14-18 lbs, 18-22 lbs, and > 22 lbs. Sugar Coat, Maxima, SugaRed, and SS 7387 produced the largest fruit. Sugar Coat produced more oversize fruit (>24 lbs) than the other varieties in this trial. Fusion was significantly smaller than the other varieties in the trial (with the exception of Ladybelle, the mini watermelon variety).

Table 6 lists the varieties according to their soluble solid measurements. Soluble solids averages are based on a 15-fruit sample (5 fruit per replication). There were significant differences in soluble solids among the varieties. All of the varieties had average soluble solids of over 10%.

Table 7 lists the varieties according to the percent of fruit with hollow heart. Hollow heart averages are based on a 15-fruit sample (5 fruit per replication). There was some hollow heart observed in the trial this year. The varieties that were most affected were WDL9408, Affirmed and Sugar Heart. Hollow heart occurred to a lesser degree in Crisp n Sweet, Declaration, Diplomat and Baron; and rarely in SS 7167, Melody, Maxima and Brisbane. No hollow heart was observed in the 15 fruit sample for the other varieties in the trial.

Photographs of the varieties included in the trial are in Appendix A.

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**Table 1. 2012 Seedless Watermelon Variety Trial: Total Yield, Marketable I and Marketable II Yields in Pounds/Acre and Fruit/Acre**

Variety	Company	Total Count (fruit/A)	Total Weight (lbs/A)	Marketable I Count (Fruit/A)	Marketable I Weight (lbs/A)	Marketable II Count (fruit/A)	Marketable II Weight (lbs/A)	Marketable I Mean Fruit Weight
Maxima	OriGene Seeds Ltd.	7398 bcd	116644 a	7053 bc	113534 a	6984 bc	111765 a	16.11
SS 7187	Abbott & Cobb	7191 bcdef	106780 ab	7053 bc	105920 ab	6845 bcd	100874 ab	15.01
Troubadour	Harris Moran	8850 ab	99897 abcd	8366 ab	96411 abcd	8366 ab	96411 abc	11.51
SS 7387	Abbott & Cobb	6638 cdefgh	104178 abc	6430 bcde	102410 abc	6154 cdefgh	95426 abcd	15.88
SugaRed	Zeraim Gedera	5808 cdefghi	92816 abcde	5808 cdef	92816 abcd	5739 cdefghi	90935 abcde	15.93
ACX 6177	Abbott & Cobb	6361 cdefghi	92481 abcdef	6085 cdef	90435 abcdef	6085 cdefghi	90435 abcde	14.85
Tri-X 313	check	6569 cdefgh	94850 abcde	6015 cdef	91211 abcde	5946 cdefghi	89450 abcde	15.18
Crunchy Red	check	6776 cdefg	89703 abcdefg	6430 bcde	86852 abcdefg	6430 bcdefg	86852 abcdef	13.50
WDL-408	Zeraim Gedera	6776 cdefg	94144 abcde	6638 bcd	92694 abcd	6430 bcdefg	86432 abcdef	13.99
Crisp n Sweet	Zeraim Gedera	6223 cdefghi	88203 abcdefg	6015 cdef	86456 abcdefg	5946 cdefghi	84653 abcdefg	14.36
Sweet Polly	Siegers	6361 cdefghi	85517 bcdefgh	6084 cdef	82920 bcdefgh	6084 cdefghi	82920 abcdefgh	13.63
Sugar Heart	Zeraim Gedera	6015 cdefghi	84317 bcdefgh	5946 cdef	83836 abcdefgh	5877 cdefghi	81818 bcdefgh	14.12
WDL-412	Zeraim Gedera	6845 bcdefg	82419 bcdefgh	6638 bcd	81042 bcdefgh	6638 bcdef	81042 bcdefgh	12.21
HMX 1915	Harris Moran	7329 bcde	82994 bcdefgh	6776 bcd	79940 bcdefgh	6776 bcde	79940 bcdefgh	11.82
Affirmed (SWT7609)	Sakata	5946 cdefghi	81467 bcdefgh	5877 cdef	80767 bcdefgh	5808 cdefghi	78994 bcdefgh	13.71
WDL9408	Syngenta-Rogers	5531 defghi	80370 bcdefgh	5531 cdef	80370 bcdefgh	5462 cdefghi	78678 bcdefgh	14.53
SS 7197	Abbott & Cobb	5670 cdefghi	78676 bcdefgh	5601 cdef	78286 bcdefgh	5601 cdefghi	78286 bcdefgh	13.95
Declaration	Nunhems USA	6085 cdefghi	85523 bcdefgh	5739 cdef	82972 bcdefgh	5531 cdefghi	77366 bcdefgh	14.49
SS 5234	Abbott & Cobb	6430 cdefghi	78669 bcdefgh	6084 cdef	76346 bcdefgh	6084 cdefghi	76346 bcdefgh	12.55
Sugar Coat	Zeraim Gedera	5117 ghi	85078 bcdefgh	5047 cdef	84598 abcdefgh	4633 fghi	73900 bcdefgh	16.76
WDL-406	Zeraim Gedera	5670 cdefghi	74630 cdefgh	5601 cdef	74149 cdefgh	5531 cdefghi	72127 bcdefgh	13.27
Fascination	Syngenta-Rogers	5255 fghi	74778 cdefgh	4909 def	72041 cdefgh	4771 efghi	68204 cdefgh	14.68
SS 7167	check	5600 defghi	67736 efgh	5531 cdef	67414 defgh	5531 cdefghi	67414 cdefgh	12.17
Brisbane	agroGene Inc.	5324 efghi	69671 defgh	5185 cdef	68592 defgh	5116 cdefghi	66696 defgh	13.23
Gilboa	OriGene Seeds Ltd.	5048 ghi	68352 efgh	5048 cdef	68352 defgh	4978 cdefghi	66562 defgh	13.55
WDL9409	Syngenta-Rogers	5324 efghi	71598 defgh	4840 def	67843 defgh	4702 fghi	64170 efgh	14.02
Diplomat	Nunhems USA	5324 efghi	72618 defgh	4909 def	70086 defgh	4633 fghi	62544 efgh	14.27
Ladybelle	Nunhems USA	10233 a	62229 fgh	10233 a	62229 efgh	10233 a	62229 efgh	6.06
WDL9405	Syngenta-Rogers	4494 i	61807 gh	4287 f	60647 fgh	4218 hi	58769 fgh	14.15
Melody	Syngenta-Rogers	5047 ghi	59752 gh	4840 def	58470 gh	4840 defghi	58470 fgh	12.07
Distinction	Syngenta-Rogers	4633 hi	57393 h	4563 ef	56823 gh	4563 ghi	56823 gh	12.46
Baron	agroGene Inc.	4909 ghi	59239 gh	4080 f	54386 h	4080 i	54386 h	13.34
Fusion	OriGene Seeds Ltd.	7675 bc	67270 efgh	5324 cdef	54325 h	5324 cdefghi	54325 h	10.14
<b>p-value</b>		<b>0.0002</b>	<b>0.0211</b>	<b>0.0004</b>	<b>0.0151</b>	<b>0.0003</b>	<b>0.0177</b>	
<b>LSD</b>		<b>2031</b>	<b>30467</b>	<b>2049</b>	<b>30414</b>	<b>2053</b>	<b>29484</b>	

Total Yield includes misshapen culls, under and oversize fruit. Marketable Yield I excludes misshapen culls and fruit less than 7 lbs. Marketable Yield II excludes misshapen culls, fruit less than 7 lbs, and fruit over 24 lbs. Fruit less than 7 lbs were not excluded for Ladybell, a mini watermelon variety.

**Table 2. 2012 Seedless Watermelon Variety Trial: Varieties by Marketable I Yield in Lbs/A**

Variety	Yields in Lbs/A*					Seed Source
	Marketable I Yield Lbs/A	Harvest 1 70 DAT	Harvest 2 84 DAT	Harvest 3 96/98 DAT	Harvest 4 112/118 DAT	
Maxima	113534 a	22671	15889	18757	56217	OriGene Seeds Ltd.
SS 7187	105920 ab	29925	12815	13432	49748	Abbott & Cobb
SS 7387	102410 abc	34569	12950	19975	34916	Abbott & Cobb
Troubadour	96411 abcd	30322	7643	13224	45222	Harris Moran
SugaRed	92816 abcd	26656	13383	10973	41804	Zeraim Gedera
WDL-408	92694 abcd	32297	8434	5448	46515	Zeraim Gedera
Tri-X 313	91211 abcde	26991	10223	6506	47490	check
ACX 6177	90435 abcdef	28432	14951	2325	44727	Abbott & Cobb
Crunchy Red	86852 abcdefg	26547	8688	7308	44308	check
Crisp n Sweet	86456 abcdefg	27390	4346	8108	46612	Zeraim Gedera
Sugar Coat	84598 abcdefgh	18693	16119	14466	35320	Zeraim Gedera
Sugar Heart	83836 abcdefgh	28513	6216	3140	45966	Zeraim Gedera
Declaration	82972 bcdefgh	28398	3569	13936	37067	Nunhems USA
Sweet Polly	82920 bcdefgh	26547	15065	8618	32691	Siegers
WDL-412	81042 bcdefgh	19411	7448	9972	44211	Zeraim Gedera
Affirmed (SWT7609)	80767 bcdefgh	22406	13132	7787	37442	Sakata
WDL9408	80370 bcdefgh	26146	11124	10840	32261	Syngenta-Rogers
HMX 1915	79940 bcdefgh	25583	6170	5616	42571	Harris Moran
SS 7197	78286 bcdefgh	30607	10836	5381	31463	Abbott & Cobb
SS 5234	76346 bcdefgh	22805	13139	4949	35454	Abbott & Cobb
WDL-406	74149 cdefgh	26060	15853	2380	29856	Zeraim Gedera
Fascination	72041 cdefgh	21714	8828	4818	36682	Syngenta-Rogers
Diplomat	70086 defgh	29101	5505	3273	32207	Nunhems USA
Brisbane	68592 defgh	20938	11104	4097	32453	agroGene Inc.
Gilboa	68352 defgh	26928	6050	6581	28792	OriGene Seeds Ltd.
WDL9409	67843 defgh	26673	7039	4107	30025	Syngenta-Rogers
SS 7167	67414 defgh	37770	6621	1633	21390	check
Ladybelle	62229 efg	17110	5984	9339	29796	Nunhems USA
WDL9405	60647 fgh	25019	8088	2444	25096	Syngenta-Rogers
Melody	58470 gh	22572	11828	4807	19263	Syngenta-Rogers
Distinction	56823 gh	22101	1727	5466	27529	Syngenta-Rogers
Baron	54386 h	15359	13795	8182	17049	agroGene Inc.
Fusion	54325 h	12487	7750	8113	25975	OriGene Seeds Ltd.
LSD <sub>0.05</sub>	30414					
p-value	0.0151					

**Table 3. 2012 Seedless Watermelon Variety Trial: Varieties by Marketable I Yield in Fruit/A**

Variety	Yields in Fruit/A					Seed Source
	Marketable I Yield Fruit/A	Harvest 1 70 DAT	Harvest 2 84 DAT	Harvest 3 96/98 DAT	Harvest 4 112/118 DAT	
Ladybelle	10233 a	2973	968	1314	4978	Nunhems USA
Troubadour	8366 ab	2766	622	968	4010	Harris Moran
SS 7187	7053 bc	2143	761	830	3319	Abbott & Cobb
Maxima	7053 bc	1590	899	968	3595	OriGene Seeds Ltd.
HMX 1915	6776 bcd	2420	484	415	3457	Harris Moran
WDL-408	6638 bcd	2489	553	346	3250	Zeraim Gedera
WDL-412	6638 bcd	1659	622	761	3595	Zeraim Gedera
SS 7387	6430 bcde	2351	761	1175	2143	Abbott & Cobb
Crunchy Red	6430 bcde	2282	691	553	2904	check
ACX 6177	6085 cdef	2143	968	138	2835	Abbott & Cobb
Sweet Polly	6084 cdef	2351	1106	622	2005	Siegers
SS 5234	6084 cdef	2074	968	346	2697	Abbott & Cobb
Tri-X 313	6015 cdef	1867	691	346	3111	check
Crisp n Sweet	6015 cdef	1936	277	553	3250	Zeraim Gedera
Sugar Heart	5946 cdef	2143	415	277	3111	Zeraim Gedera
Affirmed (SWT7609)	5877 cdef	1729	968	553	2627	Sakata
SugaRed	5808 cdef	1798	830	553	2627	Zeraim Gedera
Declaration	5739 cdef	2143	277	899	2420	Nunhems USA
SS 7197	5601 cdef	2282	691	346	2282	Abbott & Cobb
WDL-406	5601 cdef	2005	1106	138	2351	Zeraim Gedera
SS 7167	5531 cdef	3388	484	138	1521	check
WDL9408	5531 cdef	2143	691	691	2005	Syngenta-Rogers
Fusion	5324 cdef	1314	691	761	2558	OriGene Seeds Ltd.
Brisbane	5185 cdef	1590	761	277	2558	agroGene Inc.
Gilboa	5048 cdef	2282	415	415	1936	OriGene Seeds Ltd.
Sugar Coat	5047 cdef	1314	899	830	2005	Zeraim Gedera
Fascination	4909 def	1590	553	346	2420	Syngenta-Rogers
Diplomat	4909 def	2282	346	207	2074	Nunhems USA
Melody	4840 def	2005	899	415	1521	Syngenta-Rogers
WDL9409	4840 def	2143	553	277	1867	Syngenta-Rogers
Distinction	4563 ef	2074	138	415	1936	Syngenta-Rogers
WDL9405	4287 f	2005	622	138	1521	Syngenta-Rogers
Baron	4080 f	1314	968	553	1245	agroGene Inc.
LSD <sub>0.05</sub>	2049					
p-value	0.0004					

**Table 4. 2012 Seedless Watermelon Variety Trial: Percent of Total Harvested at Each Harvest by Weight**

Variety	Percent of Total Harvested at Each Harvest by Weight			
	Harvest 1 70 DAT	Harvest 2 84 DAT	Harvest 3 96/98 DAT	Harvest 4 112/118 DAT
SS 7167	<b>56.0</b>	<b>9.8</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>31.7</b>
Diplomat	<b>41.5</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>46.0</b>
WDL9405	<b>41.3</b>	<b>13.3</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>41.4</b>
Gilboa	<b>39.4</b>	<b>8.9</b>	<b>9.6</b>	<b>42.1</b>
WDL9409	<b>39.3</b>	<b>10.4</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>44.3</b>
SS 7197	<b>39.1</b>	<b>13.8</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>40.2</b>
Distinction	<b>38.9</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>9.6</b>	<b>48.4</b>
Melody	<b>38.6</b>	<b>20.2</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>32.9</b>
WDL-406	<b>35.1</b>	<b>21.4</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>40.3</b>
WDL-408	<b>34.8</b>	<b>9.1</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>50.2</b>
Declaration	<b>34.2</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>16.8</b>	<b>44.7</b>
Sugar Heart	<b>34.0</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>54.8</b>
SS 7387	<b>33.8</b>	<b>12.6</b>	<b>19.5</b>	<b>34.1</b>
WDL9408	<b>32.5</b>	<b>13.8</b>	<b>13.5</b>	<b>40.1</b>
Sweet Polly	<b>32.0</b>	<b>18.2</b>	<b>10.4</b>	<b>39.4</b>
HMX 1915	<b>32.0</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>53.3</b>
Crisp n Sweet	<b>31.7</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>9.4</b>	<b>53.9</b>
Troubadour	<b>31.5</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>13.7</b>	<b>46.9</b>
ACX 6177	<b>31.4</b>	<b>16.5</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>49.5</b>
Crunchy Red	<b>30.6</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>8.4</b>	<b>51.0</b>
Brisbane	<b>30.5</b>	<b>16.2</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>47.3</b>
Fascination	<b>30.1</b>	<b>12.3</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>50.9</b>
SS 5234	<b>29.9</b>	<b>17.2</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>46.4</b>
Tri-X 313	<b>29.6</b>	<b>11.2</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>52.1</b>
SugaRed	<b>28.7</b>	<b>14.4</b>	<b>11.8</b>	<b>45.0</b>
SS 7187	<b>28.3</b>	<b>12.1</b>	<b>12.7</b>	<b>47.0</b>
Baron	<b>28.2</b>	<b>25.4</b>	<b>15.0</b>	<b>31.3</b>
Affirmed	<b>27.7</b>	<b>16.3</b>	<b>9.6</b>	<b>46.4</b>
Ladybelle	<b>27.5</b>	<b>9.6</b>	<b>15.0</b>	<b>47.9</b>
WDL-412	<b>24.0</b>	<b>9.2</b>	<b>12.3</b>	<b>54.6</b>
Fusion	<b>23.0</b>	<b>14.3</b>	<b>14.9</b>	<b>47.8</b>
Sugar Coat	<b>22.1</b>	<b>19.1</b>	<b>17.1</b>	<b>41.8</b>
Maxima	<b>20.0</b>	<b>14.0</b>	<b>16.5</b>	<b>49.5</b>

**Table 5. 2012 Seedless Watermelon Variety Trial: Varieties by Average Fruit Weight**

Variety	Mean Marketable I Weight (lbs)	Percent of Fruit in Each Size Class					
		7.00-8.00 lbs	8.00-14.00 lbs	14.01- 18.00 lbs	18.01- 22.00 lbs	22.01 – 24.00 lbs	> 24.00 lbs
Sugar Coat	16.76 a	1.4	27.4	35.6	21.9	5.5	8.2
Maxima	16.11 ab	1.0	33.3	32.4	26.5	5.9	1.0
SugaRed	15.93 a-c	0.0	29.8	38.1	29.8	1.2	1.2
SS 7387	15.88 a-d	1.1	31.2	47.3	14.0	2.2	4.3
Tri-X 313	15.18 b-e	3.4	41.4	25.3	23.0	5.7	1.1
SS 7187	15.01 c-f	0.0	39.2	40.2	16.7	1.0	2.9
ACX 6177	14.85 d-g	3.4	38.6	39.8	18.2	0.0	0.0
Fascination	14.68 e-h	0.0	46.5	40.8	8.5	1.4	2.8
WDL9408	14.53 e-i	2.5	48.8	33.8	8.8	5.0	1.3
Declaration	14.49 e-j	0.0	53.0	28.9	13.3	1.2	3.6
Crisp n Sweet	14.36 e-j	1.1	50.6	35.6	9.2	2.3	1.1
Diplomat	14.27 e-k	4.2	52.1	31.0	4.2	2.8	5.6
WDL9405	14.15 e-k	3.2	41.9	40.3	11.3	1.6	1.6
Sugar Heart	14.12 f-k	2.3	54.7	27.9	10.5	3.5	1.2
WDL9409	14.02 f-k	2.9	48.6	34.3	10.0	1.4	2.9
WDL-408	13.99 g-k	2.1	60.4	24.0	7.3	3.1	3.1
SS 7197	13.95 g-k	1.2	51.9	30.9	12.3	3.7	0.0
Affirmed	13.71 h-k	2.4	57.6	28.2	10.6	0.0	1.2
Sweet Polly	13.63 h-k	3.4	54.5	26.1	13.6	2.3	0.0
Gilboa	13.55 h-l	6.8	50.7	30.1	8.2	2.7	1.4
Crunchy Red	13.50 i-l	2.2	63.4	24.7	7.5	2.2	0.0
Baron	13.34 j-m	3.4	57.6	30.5	6.8	1.7	0.0
WDL-406	13.27 k-m	2.5	59.3	32.1	4.9	0.0	1.2
Brisbane	13.23 k-m	5.3	54.7	36.0	2.7	0.0	1.3
SS 5234	12.55 l-n	4.5	69.3	20.5	5.7	0.0	0.0
Distinction	12.46 l-o	7.6	66.7	22.7	3.0	0.0	0.0
WDL-412	12.21 m-o	2.1	74.0	20.8	3.1	0.0	0.0
SS 7167	12.17 m-o	5.0	72.5	17.5	5.0	0.0	0.0
Melody	12.07 no	7.1	72.9	14.3	5.7	0.0	0.0
HMX 1915	11.82 no	9.2	68.4	19.4	3.1	0.0	0.0
Troubadour	11.51 o	8.3	76.0	13.2	2.5	0.0	0.0
Fusion	10.14 p	23.4	66.2	9.1	1.3	0.0	0.0
		<3 lbs	<b>3.01-5.0 lbs</b>	<b>5.01-7.0 lbs</b>	<b>7.01-9.0 lbs</b>	<b>&gt;9 lbs</b>	
Ladybelle	6.06 q	0.0	26.4	47.3	22.3	4.1	
p-value	<0.0001						

**Table 6. 2012 Seedless Watermelon Variety Trial: Varieties by Soluble Solid Content**

Variety	% Soluble Solids
SugaRed	12.3 a
Declaration	12.0 ab
WDL9405	11.9 abc
Crisp n Sweet	11.9 abc
SS 7387	11.9 abc
Fascination	11.9 abc
Affirmed	11.9 abcd
Gilboa	11.8 abcde
Brisbane	11.8 abcde
WDL9408	11.6 bcd
Melody	11.5 bcdef
Diplomat	11.5 bcdef
Ladybelle	11.5 bcdef
Sugar Heart	11.5 bcdefg
SS 7197	11.4 bcdefg
ACX 6177	11.3 cdefgh
Sugar Coat	11.3 cdefgh
Maxima	11.3 cdefgh
Baron	11.3 cdefgh
Troubadour	11.3 cdefgh
SS 7167	11.3 defghi
WDL-406	11.3 defghi
SS 5234	11.2 efghi
SS 7187	11.2 efghi
WDL-408	11.1 fghi
Tri-X 313	11.1 fghij
Distinction	11.0 fghij
WDL-412	11.0 fghij
WDL9409	10.9 ghij
Sweet Polly	10.8 hij
Crunchy Red	10.7 ijk
HMX 1915	10.5 jk
Fusion	10.1 k
p-value	<0.0001
LSD <sub>0.05</sub>	0.6181

**Table 7. 2012 Seedless Watermelon Variety Trial: Percent of Sampled Fruit with Hollow Heart**

Variety	% Fruit with Hollow Heart
WDL9408	40.0 a
Affirmed	40.0 a
Sugar Heart	20.0 ab
Crisp n Sweet	13.3 b
Declaration	13.3 b
Diplomat	13.3 b
Baron	13.3 b
SS 7167	6.7 b
Melody	6.7 b
Maxima	6.7 b
Brisbane	6.7 b
Sweet Polly	0.0 b
SS 7387	0.0 b
ACX 6177	0.0 b
SS 7187	0.0 b
SS 5234	0.0 b
SS 7197	0.0 b
Tri-X 313	0.0 b
Fascination	0.0 b
Distinction	0.0 b
WDL9409	0.0 b
WDL9405	0.0 b
SugaRed	0.0 b
Sugar Coat	0.0 b
WDL-406	0.0 b
WDL-408	0.0 b
WDL-412	0.0 b
Ladybelle	0.0 b
Fusion	0.0 b
Gilboa	0.0 b
Troubadour	0.0 b
HMX 1915	0.0 b
Crunchy Red	0.0 b
<i>p</i> -value	0.0045
LSD <sub>0.05</sub>	20.12

## **APPENDIX A:**

**Photographs of Varieties in the 2012 Seedless Watermelon Variety Trial**

Standard Crimson Sweet-Type Watermelons\*



**Maxima**

Marketable I Yield: 113534 lbs/A (1)

Marketable II Yield: 111765 lbs/A (1)

Mean Weight: 16.11 lbs (2)

Soluble Solids: 11.3 % (18)

OriGene Seeds Ltd.



**SS 7187**

Marketable I Yield: 105920 lbs/A (2)

Marketable II Yield: 100874 lbs/A (2)

Mean Weight: 15.01 lbs (6)

Soluble Solids: 11.2 % (24)

Abbott & Cobb



**Troubadour**

Marketable I Yield: 96411 lbs/A (4)

Marketable II Yield: 96411 lbs/A (3)

Mean Weight: 11.51 lbs (31)

Soluble Solids: 11.3 % (20)

Harris Moran



### **Maxima**

Marketable I Yield: lbs/A ()  
Marketable II Yield: lbs/A ()  
Mean Weight: lbs ()  
Soluble Solids: % ()

OriGene Seeds Ltd.



### **SS 7187**

Marketable I Yield: lbs/A ()  
Marketable II Yield: lbs/A ()  
Mean Weight: lbs ()  
Soluble Solids: % ()

Abbott & Cobb



### **Troubadour**

Marketable I Yield: lbs/A ()  
Marketable II Yield: lbs/A ()  
Mean Weight: lbs ()  
Soluble Solids: % ()

Harris Moran

Standard Crimson Sweet-Type Watermelons\*



**SS 7387**

Marketable I Yield: 102410 lbs/A (3)  
Marketable II Yield: 95426 lbs/A (4)

Mean Weight: 15.88 lbs (4)  
Soluble Solids: 11.9 % (5)

Abbott & Cobb



**SugaRed**

Marketable I Yield: 92816 lbs/A (5)  
Marketable II Yield: 90935 lbs/A (5)

Mean Weight: 15.93 lbs (3)  
Soluble Solids: 12.3 % (1)

Zeraim Gedera



**ACX 6177**

Marketable I Yield: 90435 lbs/A (8)  
Marketable II Yield: 90435 lbs/A (6)

Mean Weight: 14.85 lbs (7)  
Soluble Solids: 11.3 % (16)

Abbott & Cobb



### SS 7387

Marketable I Yield: 102410 lbs/A (3)

Marketable II Yield: 95426 lbs/A (4)

Mean Weight: 15.88 lbs (4)

Soluble Solids: 11.9 % (5)

### Abbott & Cobb



### SugaRed

Marketable I Yield: 92816 lbs/A (5)

Marketable II Yield: 90935 lbs/A (5)

Mean Weight: 15.93 lbs (3)

Soluble Solids: 12.3 % (1)

### Zeraim Gedera



### ACX 6177

Marketable I Yield: 90435 lbs/A (8)

Marketable II Yield: 90435 lbs/A (6)

Mean Weight: 14.85 lbs (7)

Soluble Solids: 11.3 % (16)

### Abbott & Cobb

Standard Crimson Sweet-Type Watermelons\*



**Tri-X 313**

Marketable I Yield: 91211 lbs/A (7)

Marketable II Yield: 89450 lbs/A (7)

Mean Weight: 15.18 lbs (5)

Soluble Solids: 11.1 % (26)



Syngenta-Rogers (check)

**Crunchy Red**

Marketable I Yield: 86852 lbs/A (9)

Marketable II Yield: 86852 lbs/A (8)

Mean Weight: 13.50 lbs (21)

Soluble Solids: 10.7 % (31)



Harris Moran (check)

**WDL-408**

Marketable I Yield: 92694 lbs/A (6)

Marketable II Yield: 86432 lbs/A (9)

Mean Weight: 13.99 lbs (16)

Soluble Solids: 11.1 % (25)

Zeraim Gedera

## Standard Crimson Sweet-Type Watermelons\*

	<p><b>Crisp n Sweet</b></p> <p>Marketable I Yield: 86456 lbs/A (10) Marketable II Yield: 84653 lbs/A (10) Mean Weight: 14.36 lbs (11) Soluble Solids: 11.9 % (4)</p>
	<p><b>Zeraim Gedera</b></p> <p><b>Sweet Polly</b></p> <p>Marketable I Yield: 82920 lbs/A (14) Marketable II Yield: 82920 lbs/A (11) Mean Weight: 13.63 lbs (19) Soluble Solids: 10.8 % (30)</p>
	<p><b>Siegers</b></p> <p><b>Sugar Heart</b></p> <p>Marketable I Yield: 83836 lbs/A (12) Marketable II Yield: 81818 lbs/A (12) Mean Weight: 14.12 lbs (14) Soluble Solids: 11.5 % (14)</p>
	<p><b>Zeraim Gedera</b></p>

\*Numbers in parenthesis are the rank of the variety for this characteristic out of the 33 varieties.

Standard Crimson Sweet-Type Watermelons\*



**WDL-412**

Marketable I Yield: 81042 lbs/A (15)  
Marketable II Yield: 81042 lbs/A (13)

Mean Weight: 12.21 lbs (27)  
Soluble Solids: 11.0 % (28)

Zeraim Gedera



**HMX 1915**

Marketable I Yield: 79940 lbs/A (18)  
Marketable II Yield: 79940 lbs/A (14)

Mean Weight: 11.82 lbs (30)  
Soluble Solids: 10.5 % (32)

Harris Moran



**Affirmed (SWT7609)**

Marketable I Yield: 80767 lbs/A (16)  
Marketable II Yield: 78994 lbs/A (15)

Mean Weight: 13.71 lbs (18)  
Soluble Solids: 11.9% (7)

Sakata

Standard Crimson Sweet-Type Watermelons\*

		<p><b>WDL9408</b></p> <p>Marketable I Yield: 80370 lbs/A (17) Marketable II Yield: 78678 lbs/A (16) Mean Weight: 14.53 lbs (9) Soluble Solids: 11.6 % (10)</p>
		<p><b>Syngenta-Rogers</b></p> <p><b>SS 7197</b></p> <p>Marketable I Yield: 78286 lbs/A (19) Marketable II Yield: 78286 lbs/A (17) Mean Weight: 13.95 lbs (17) Soluble Solids: 11.4 % (15)</p>
		<p><b>Abbott &amp; Cobb</b></p> <p><b>Declaration</b></p> <p>Marketable I Yield: 82972 lbs/A (13) Marketable II Yield: 77366 lbs/A (18) Mean Weight: 14.49 lbs (10) Soluble Solids: 12.0 % (2)</p>
		<p><b>Nunhems USA</b></p>

Standard Crimson Sweet-Type Watermelons\*



**SS 5234**

Marketable I Yield: 76346 lbs/A (20)  
Marketable II Yield: 76346 lbs/A (19)

Mean Weight: 12.55 lbs (25)  
Soluble Solids: 11.2 % (23)

Abbott & Cobb



**Sugar Coat**

Marketable I Yield: 84598 lbs/A (11)  
Marketable II Yield: 73900 lbs/A (20)

Mean Weight: 16.76 lbs (1)  
Soluble Solids: 11.3 % (17)

Zeraim Gedera



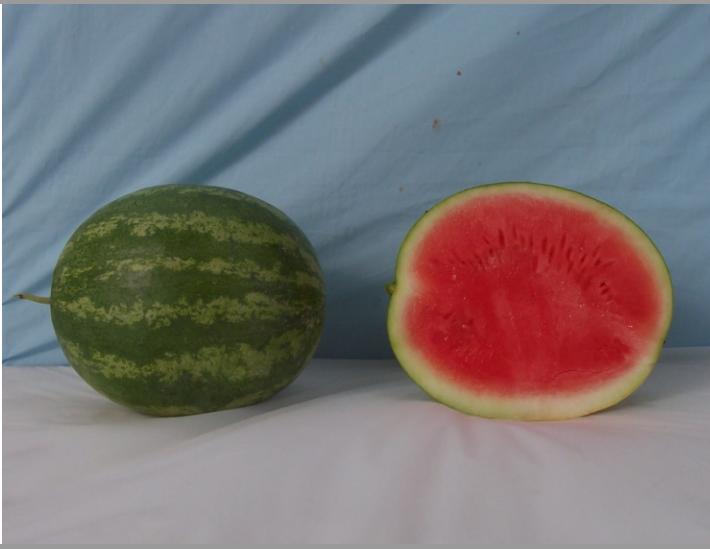
**WDL-406**

Marketable I Yield: 74149 lbs/A (21)  
Marketable II Yield: 72127 lbs/A (21)

Mean Weight: 13.27 lbs (23)  
Soluble Solids: 11.3 % (22)

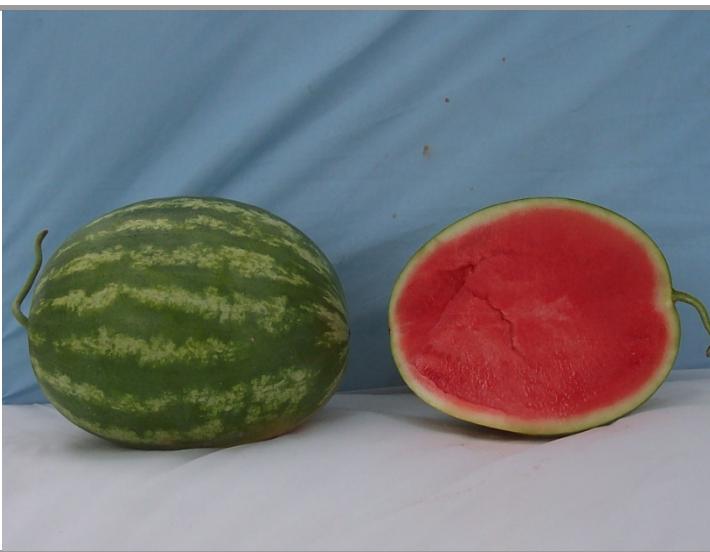
Zeraim Gedera

## Standard Crimson Sweet-Type Watermelons\*

	<p><b>Fascination</b></p> <p>Marketable I Yield: 72041 lbs/A (22) Marketable II Yield: 68204 lbs/A (22) Mean Weight: 14.68 lbs (8) Soluble Solids: 11.9 % (6)</p>
	<p><b>Syngenta-Rogers</b></p> <p><b>SS 7167</b></p> <p>Marketable I Yield: 67414 lbs/A (27) Marketable II Yield: 67414 lbs/A (23) Mean Weight: 12.17 lbs (28) Soluble Solids: 11.3 % (21)</p>
	<p><b>Abbott &amp; Cobb</b></p> <p><b>Gilboa</b></p> <p>Marketable I Yield: 68352 lbs/A (25) Marketable II Yield: 66562 lbs/A (25) Mean Weight: 13.55 lbs (20) Soluble Solids: 11.8 % (8)</p>
	<p><b>OriGene Seeds Ltd.</b></p>

\*Numbers in parenthesis are the rank of the variety for this characteristic out of the 33 varieties.

Standard Crimson Sweet-Type Watermelons\*

	<p><b>WDL9409</b></p> <p>Marketable I Yield: 67843 lbs/A (26) Marketable II Yield: 64170 lbs/A (26) Mean Weight: 14.02 lbs (15) Soluble Solids: 10.9 % (29)</p>
	<p><b>Syngenta-Rogers</b></p> <p><b>Diplomat</b></p> <p>Marketable I Yield: 70086 lbs/A (23) Marketable II Yield: 62544 lbs/A (27) Mean Weight: 14.27 lbs (12) Soluble Solids: 11.5 % (12)</p>
	<p><b>Nunhems USA</b></p> <p><b>WDL9405</b></p> <p>Marketable I Yield: 60647 lbs/A (29) Marketable II Yield: 58769 lbs/A (29) Mean Weight: 14.15 lbs (13) Soluble Solids: 11.9 % (3)</p>
	<p><b>Syngenta-Rogers</b></p>

\*Numbers in parenthesis are the rank of the variety for this characteristic out of the 33 varieties.

## Standard Crimson Sweet-Type Watermelons\*

	<b>Melody</b> Marketable I Yield: 58470 lbs/A (30) Marketable II Yield: 58470 lbs/A (30) Mean Weight: 12.07 lbs (29) Soluble Solids: 11.5 % (11)
	<b>Syngenta-Rogers</b> <b>Distinction</b> Marketable I Yield: 56823 lbs/A (31) Marketable II Yield: 56823 lbs/A (31) Mean Weight: 12.46 lbs (26) Soluble Solids: 11.0 % (27)
	<b>Syngenta-Rogers</b> <b>Fusion</b> Marketable I Yield: 54325 lbs/A (33) Marketable II Yield: 54325 lbs/A (33) Mean Weight: 10.14 lbs (32) Soluble Solids: 10.1 % (33)
	OriGene Seeds Ltd.

\*Numbers in parenthesis are the rank of the variety for this characteristic out of the 33 varieties.

Watermelons with Non-Crimson Sweet Type Rind Patterns\*

	<p><b>Brisbane</b></p> <p>Marketable I Yield: 68592 lbs/A (24) Marketable II Yield: 66696 lbs/A (24) Mean Weight: 13.23 lbs (24) Soluble Solids: 11.8 % (9)</p> <p>agroGene Inc.</p>
	<p><b>Ladybelle</b></p> <p>Marketable I Yield: 62229 lbs/A (28) Marketable II Yield: 62229 lbs/A (28) Mean Weight: 6.06 lbs (33) Soluble Solids: 11.5 % (13)</p>
	<p><b>Nunhems USA</b></p> <p><b>Baron</b></p> <p>Marketable I Yield: 54386 lbs/A (32) Marketable II Yield: 54386 lbs/A (32) Mean Weight: 13.34 lbs (22) Soluble Solids: 11.3 % (19)</p> <p>agroGene Inc.</p>

**APPENDIX B:**  
**Weather Summary for the 2012 Watermelon Variety Trial**  
**May 17<sup>th</sup> (transplanting) – September 12<sup>th</sup> (final harvest)**

**Appendix B: Weather Summary for the 2012 Watermelon Variety Trial**  
**May 17<sup>th</sup> (transplanting) – September 12<sup>th</sup> (final harvest)**

DAT	Date	Max Temp °F	Min Temp °F	Rainfall (in.)
0	17-May	70.5	49.6	0
1	18-May	69.6	45.6	0
2	19-May	74.7	46	0
3	20-May	70.9	49.6	0.85
4	21-May	73.8	61.5	0.05
5	22-May	75.7	61.8	0.01
6	23-May	79.2	62.6	0
7	24-May	81.2	60.2	0
8	25-May	82.1	66.6	0
9	26-May	85.7	61.5	0
10	27-May	86.2	66.1	0
11	28-May	88.2	69.6	0
12	29-May	87.1	72.7	0
13	30-May	74.3	66.1	0.58
14	31-May	83.9	63.4	0.01
15	1-Jun	82.6	60.9	0.17
16	2-Jun	73.4	56.9	0.25
17	3-Jun	77.3	54.7	0
18	4-Jun	72.5	58	0.11
19	5-Jun	66.7	51.7	0.03
20	6-Jun	71.3	47.7	0
21	7-Jun	78.9	50.7	0.14
22	8-Jun	82.4	56	0
23	9-Jun	88.4	62.9	0
24	10-Jun	92.1	63.1	0
25	11-Jun	88.6	65.7	0.01
26	12-Jun	73.6	67.2	0.36
27	13-Jun	79.6	66	0
28	14-Jun	73.9	62.3	0.01
29	15-Jun	75.6	57.3	0
30	16-Jun	75.6	53	0
31	17-Jun	70.7	51.7	0
32	18-Jun	71.6	45.8	0
33	19-Jun	82.6	63	0.05
34	20-Jun	95.3	65	0
35	21-Jun	96.4	72.2	0
36	22-Jun	94.4	70.8	0
37	23-Jun	88.6	68.8	0
38	24-Jun	89	63.4	0
39	25-Jun	86	69.2	0.02
40	26-Jun	77.6	58.2	0
41	27-Jun	85.6	52.6	0
42	28-Jun	90.7	58.8	0
43	29-Jun	99.6	71.1	0
44	30-Jun	91.5	69.8	0.11
45	1-Jul	96.2	71	0
46	2-Jul	91.4	69.1	0.17
47	3-Jul	94.1	63.5	0
48	4-Jul	93	73.7	0
49	5-Jul	98.6	77.9	0

<b>DAT</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Max Temp (°F)</b>	<b>Min Temp (°F)</b>	<b>Rainfall (in.)</b>
50	6-Jul	96.3	73.9	0
51	7-Jul	100.5	72.8	0
52	8-Jul	95.9	76.4	0.03
53	9-Jul	80.6	71.9	0.77
54	10-Jul	84.9	69.6	0
55	11-Jul	82.5	67.2	0
56	12-Jul	82.6	64.7	0
57	13-Jul	86.9	63.1	0
58	14-Jul	83.7	66.4	0.03
59	15-Jul	89.1	73.8	0
60	16-Jul	91.1	74.1	0
61	17-Jul	95.7	72.3	0
62	18-Jul	97.3	75.9	0
63	19-Jul	91.9	72.7	0
64	20-Jul	82	69	0.28
65	21-Jul	73.4	68.5	0
66	22-Jul	82.3	66	0.02
67	23-Jul	88.7	66.7	0
68	24-Jul	93	73.1	0
69	25-Jul	85	65.6	0
<b>70 (Harvest 1)</b>	<b>26-Jul</b>	<b>93.9</b>	<b>66.4</b>	<b>0</b>
71	27-Jul	93.9	70.4	0
72	28-Jul	90.6	68.4	0.65
73	29-Jul	85.2	65.6	0
74	30-Jul	82.7	68.5	0
75	31-Jul	83.4	70.4	0
76	1-Aug	81.4	68.3	0.06
77	2-Aug	88.8	65.4	0
78	3-Aug	92.9	71.3	0.38
79	4-Aug	90	72.5	0
80	5-Aug	89.9	75.3	0
81	6-Aug	86.4	71.1	0
82	7-Aug	85.5	69.1	0
83	8-Aug	87.4	71.1	0.01
<b>84 (Harvest 2)</b>	<b>9-Aug</b>	<b>89.9</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>0</b>
85	10-Aug	83.5	69.5	1.77
86	11-Aug	82.6	72	0.13
87	12-Aug	83.4	68.9	0
88	13-Aug	86.8	63.7	0
89	14-Aug	84.5	67.5	0
90	15-Aug	84.6	69.8	0
91	16-Aug	86	66.2	0
92	17-Aug	88.4	65.7	0
93	18-Aug	79.2	64.9	0.31
94	19-Aug	79.9	59.1	0.05
95	20-Aug	77.3	64.5	0
<b>96 (Harvest 3)</b>	<b>21-Aug</b>	<b>81.3</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>0</b>
97	22-Aug	83.1	61.4	0
<b>98 (Harvest 3)</b>	<b>23-Aug</b>	<b>82.7</b>	<b>61.6</b>	<b>0</b>
99	24-Aug	82.1	62.6	0
<b>100</b>	<b>25-Aug</b>	<b>75.2</b>	<b>66.4</b>	<b>1.22</b>
<b>101</b>	<b>26-Aug</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>65.9</b>	<b>1</b>

<b>DAT</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Max Temp (°F)</b>	<b>Min Temp (°F)</b>	<b>Rainfall (in.)</b>
<b>102</b>	27-Aug	84.8	73.3	0
<b>103</b>	28-Aug	86	67.7	0
<b>104</b>	29-Aug	82.4	62.7	0
<b>105</b>	30-Aug	84.6	60.7	0
<b>106</b>	31-Aug	89.2	69.4	0
<b>107</b>	1-Sep	88.5	71.4	0
<b>108</b>	2-Sep	83.3	68.2	2.36
<b>109</b>	3-Sep	84	71.1	0.26
<b>110</b>	4-Sep	86.9	74.7	0
<b>111</b>	5-Sep	85.1	74.1	0
<b>112 (Harvest 4)</b>	6-Sep	74.6	63	0.01
<b>113</b>	7-Sep	85.5	60	0
<b>114</b>	8-Sep	85	64	0.3
<b>115</b>	9-Sep	76.2	59.4	0.03
<b>116</b>	10-Sep	72.7	53.7	0
<b>117</b>	11-Sep	74.6	47.7	0
<b>118 (Harvest 4)</b>	12-Sep	77.5	48.6	0