

TIMING AND PRODUCTION RESULTS ON SNAPDRAGON VARIETIES - 1949-50

Seventeen of the standard and newer snapdragon varieties were seeded in vermiculite July 29, 1949. Plants were set in their permanent location September 1, spaced approximately 5" x 4" and grown single stemmed.

The night temperature was maintained as near 50° F. as was possible. Day temperatures were often in the 70's as the weather was warmer than average.

When the plants were benched, the nitrate level by Spurway test was approximately 30 ppm. Other nutrients were considered adequate. The equivalent of 1 lb. of ammonium sulphate per 100 sq. ft. was added October 20. The available nitrates were purposely allowed to become low at the end of the crop. A test December 5 revealed only a trace of nitrates and no additions were made thereafter.

Table 3 shows the cutting period, average number of florets open at the time considered optimum for cutting, average stem length and average weight per stem.

TABLE 3 - TIMING AND PRODUCTION OF SNAPDRAGONS - 1949-50

Variety	Cutting Period	Number Plants Benched	Total Stems Cut	Ave. No. Florets Open When Cut	No. Stem Length Inches	Ave. Weight Grams*
Ball Hybrid #1	11/15-12/13	60	57	14.0	42.1	49.6
Ball Hybrid #7	11/15-11/28	50	44	12.5	41.4	39.9
Dorcas Jane	11/28-12/28	60	60	10.8	50.3	40.9
Gilbert's Yellow	12/20-1/17	30	27	13.9	38.7	74.5
Goldmine	11/15-12/13	60	60	14.3	43.0	54.6
Goldrush	11/22-1/2	60	59	13.0	43.2	47.1
Junglewood Yellow	12/20-1/2	30	29	11.7	37.8	56.8
Margaret	12/13-1/2	60	57	13.8	50.9	45.8
Maryland Pink	11/15-12/13	60	56	10.3	35.3	37.7
P.A. Pink Hyb. #1	11/22-1/2	50	49	10.2	47.0	43.4
P.A. Rose Pink Hyb. #2	11/15-12/13	50	45	10.2	34.8	31.6
Red Lips	12/3-1/2	30	23	9.8	24.6	29.2
Shisler's Red	12/23-1/17	30	25	10.5	43.7	70.8
Snow Hybrid	12/3-1/2	50	51	9.0	38.3	40.3
Sun Glow	11/28-12/20	40	40	10.5	44.1	44.2
Velvet Supreme	11/29-12/3	20	20	9.9	33.3	34.5

* Approximately 28 grams in an ounce.

The variety Junglewood White was still cutting January 20, so its production is not included in the table. The variety Red Lips is not suited to single-stemmed production at this season of the year. About 20 per cent of the plants of this variety remained vegetative while those cut were soft.

Since premature dropping of florets was a problem in the Rocky Mountain area this fall, repeated tests were made to check the snapdragons in this experiment for shattering. There was no tendency for any of these varieties to shatter under the conditions of this test.

Another trouble seen in some areas this fall, that of determinate spikes, was also not experienced in this test. Determinate spikes are caused by high temperatures and possibly by other factors.

Since the overall temperatures were warmer than usual, a seeding about one week earlier would normally accomplish similar results.

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Your editor,

W. D. Holley