

# Annual Vegetable Trials 2008

AFES Variety Trial  
2009-02

March 2009

Patricia S. Holloway  
Professor of Horticulture

Jan Hanscom  
Horticulturalist

Etta Gardiner  
Greenhouse Manager

Grant E.M. Matheke  
Horticulturalist



## Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station

University of Alaska Fairbanks  
SNRAS/AFES Information Services  
P.O. Box 757200  
Fairbanks, AK 99775-7200  
fynrpub@uaf.edu • www.uaf.edu/snras • http://snras.blogspot.com  
907.474.6923 or 907.474.5042  
fax: 907.474.6184



Tomato branch, showing typical leaf shape, flowers, and mature fruit.  
—photo by David Besa, courtesy Wikipedia.

*NOTE: Variety Trials circulars are published by the Alaska Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station to provide information summarizing research, and are usually written for a specific lay audience. Variety trials often present information about ongoing or inconclusive applied research and experiments. They may consist of secondary information or be a bulletin or journal article summary.*

*To simplify terminology, we may use product or equipment trade names. We are not endorsing products or firms mentioned. Publication material may be reprinted provided no endorsement of a commercial product is stated or implied. Please credit the researchers involved, the University of Alaska Fairbanks, and the Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station.*

*The University of Alaska Fairbanks is accredited by the Commission on Colleges and Universities of the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges. UAF is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer and educational institution.*



## INTRODUCTION

Vegetable cultivar trials are conducted every year at the Alaska Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station Georgeson Botanical Garden (64° 51'N, 147° 52'W). Trials consist of new and standard cultivars suitable for small market gardens and home gardens in the Tanana Valley, Alaska. Plot sizes are small, and results do not necessarily reflect yield and produce quality that might be expected on large farms. Positive results should be viewed as cultivars worth further testing at the great diversity of commercial and home gardens through out the Tanana Valley.

Weather data were compiled annually from a U.S. Weather Service station, elevation 475ft (145m), located approximately 350ft (107m) west of the garden. The summer was cool and overcast especially July through September, with average daily maximum and minimum temperatures cooler than the previous two years (Tables 1 and 2). The total thaw degree days ranked the 2008

season the third coldest since 1998 in total heat accumulation during the growing season (Table 2). Cool season vegetables grew well, but warm season ones had disappointing yields. Sweet corn and eggplant did not mature, cucumber transplants were killed by a localized late spring frost, and bean vines rotted from the cool wet conditions. Gardeners around the Tanana Valley complained of size and quantity reductions in flowers, fruits, and vegetables, and delayed ripening especially in those crops requiring warm seasons. Although it was not a record-breaking season, 2008 certainly was not one to brag about.

Approximately 160 vegetable cultivars were included in the tests at the Georgeson Botanical Garden. Each cultivar is tested for at least three years as long as it is available commercially. The vegetable trials were planted from 13 May to 6 June 2008 (Table 3.) in the Family Food Garden (map on page 3). Fairbanks silt loam soil was fertilized with 10-20-20S (4 lbs per 100 sq. ft., 195 g per

sq meter) prior to planting. Broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, head lettuce, cucurbits, peppers, tomatoes, artichokes, and eggplant were grown as seedling transplants. All others were direct seeded. Transplants were hardened off outdoors for one week prior to transplanting.

All cultivars were planted according to recommended commercial spacing guidelines (Table 3.) in unreplicated beds. Plant numbers varied according to plot size. Plots were irrigated and hand weeded as needed throughout the summer. Rows of turnips, rutabaga, and radishes were covered with Reemay® spun-bonded fabric to prevent root maggot damage. Harvest began in mid-June with radishes and continued three times weekly through September. Data consisted of yield as well as observations of disease, off-type plants, and deformities. Average yields are reported for cultivars tested more than one season.

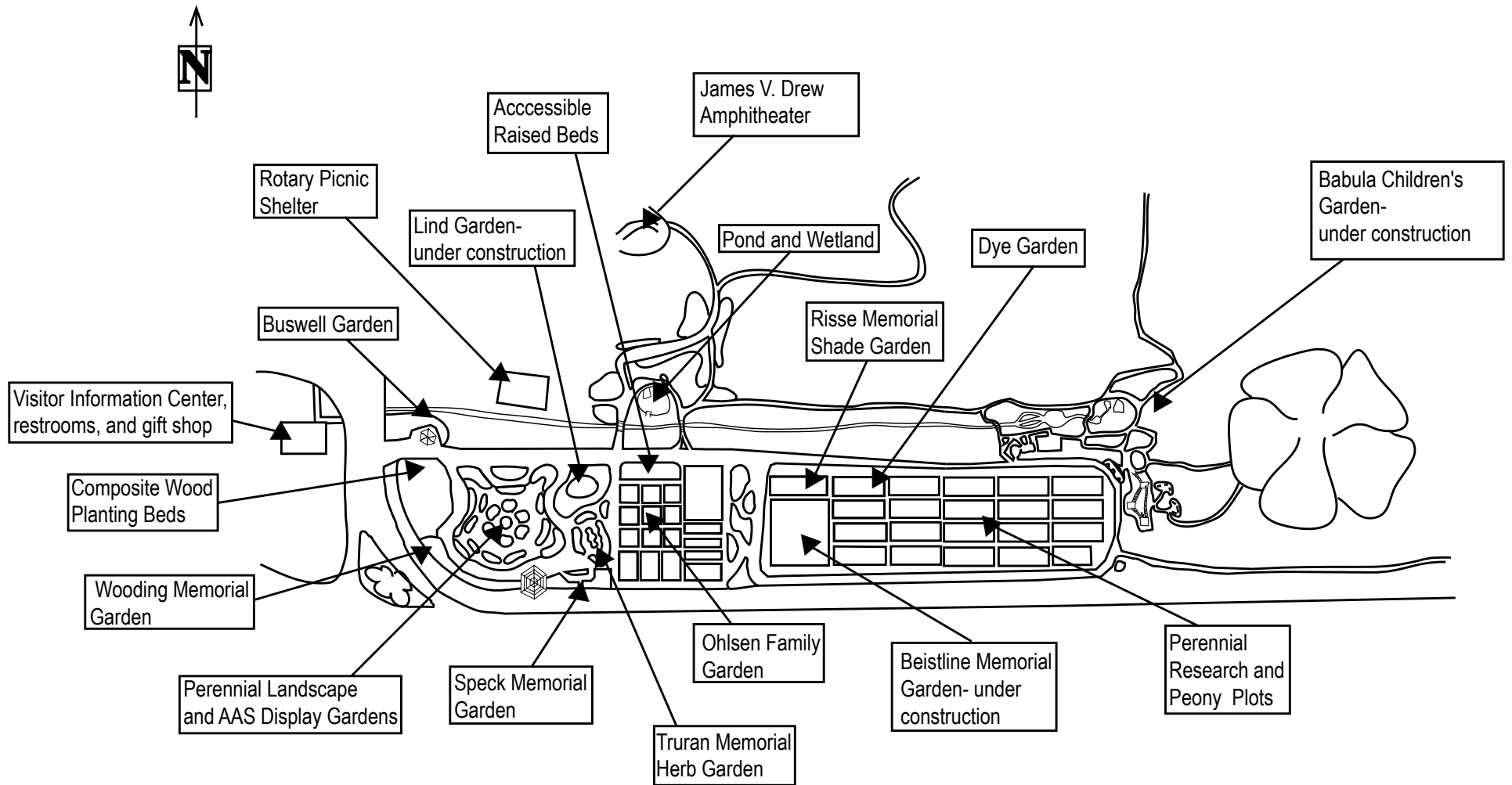
**Table 1. Weather data from the U.S. Weather Service station located just west of the garden for years 1998 – 2008.**

Season	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Average temperature: (°F)											
May	49	46	44	45	50	44	52	56	50	50	47.8
June	58	61	59	57	58	61	66	67	59	60	58.2
July	62	61	59	61	61	61	65	63	62	64	58.9
Aug	52	58	52	57	54	55	62	58	55	60	52.6
Sep	46	45	41	49	47	41	38	46	50	47	45.5
Maximum temperature (°F)	87	91	83	95	85	82	90	85	80	84	84
<b>Growing season:</b>											
Last frost	May 13	May 29	May 15	May 13	May 12	May 24	May 8	May 5	June 4	May 13	May 30
First frost	Sep 13	Sep 11	Sep 16	Sep 24	Sep 2	Sep 13	Sep 4	Sep 2	Sep 25	Sep 22	Sep 21
Frost free days	123	105	124	134	113	112	119	120	112	132	113
Thaw degree days*	3278	3383	2943	3439	2980	3123	3751	3767	3523	3728	3185.5
Rainfall (inches)	9.87	8.66	8.55	5.80	9.35	9.91	5.6	10.59	7.86	11.32	8.96
<b>Previous winter season:</b>											
Minimum temperature (°F)	-48	-54	-50	-27	-36	-35	-45	-50	-49	-41.7	-46.1
Snowfall (inches)	30.6	31.6	62.2	39.9	39.7	33.2	51.7	70.9	51.8	25.2	46.9

\* Thaw degree days = Cumulative (1 May - 30 Sep) average daily temperature minus 32°F baseline.

**Table 2. Weather data summaries for growing season years 2006 – 2008.**

	May			June			July			August			September		
Temperature °F	2006	2007	2008	2006	2007	2008	2006	2007	2008	2006	2007	2008	2006	2007	2008
Average daily maximum	63	62	60	69	72	69	71	76	68	65	71	63	61	57	56
Monthly high	75	80	69	80	84	81	83	84	84	72	84	74	69	71	70
Average daily minimum	38	38	36	48	49	47	52	52	49	45	48	42	38	37	36
Monthly low	27	28	23	30	41	39	46	44	42	36	39	35	29	22	15
<b>Rainfall (inches)</b>	0.20	0.90	0.54	1.15	2.66	1.94	3.42	4.12	3.65	2.48	1.85	2.26	0.61	1.79	0.57



**Table 3. Vegetable cultivar trials, 2008.**

Vegetable	Cultivar	Source	Years Grown	Date		Spacing			Yield (lbs)	Per	Rating	Harvest Period	Comments
				Seeded	Transplant	Within Row	Between Rows	IRT Mulch					
Artichoke													
4	Imperial Star	Johnny's Selected Seeds	07, 08	4/1	6/6	2'	2' rb	y	1.56	plant	3.8	9/3-9/16	One of two cultivars (also 'Green Globe') that will reliably produce artichokes when grown as an annual. Usually produces the highest yield.
Bean													
	Black Valentine	Heritage Harvest Seed	08	6/3	DS	1"	3'	n	0.02	foot	2.0	8/22-8/26	'08 All beans performed poorly. Lots of rot.
	Blue Lake Bush	Heirloom Seeds	08	6/3	DS	1"	3'	n	0.00	foot	1.0	---	'08 All beans performed poorly. Lots of rot.
	Oregon 54	Nichols Garden Nursery	07, 08	6/3	DS	1"	3'	n	0.70	foot	2.3	8/22-8/26	'08 All beans performed poorly. Lots of rot.
	Provider	Seedway	04, 08	6/3	DS	1"	3'	n	0.72	foot	3.5	8/18-8/26	'08 low yield but substantially higher than other beans.
Romano	Baroma Bush Romano	Nichols	07, 08	6/3	DS	1"	3'	n	0.97	foot	2.0	8/26	'08 All beans performed poorly. Lots of rot.
Romano	Romano Gold	Stokes Seeds	07, 08	6/3	DS	1"	3'	n	0.59	foot	2.0	8/26	Very nice yellow romano. '08 All beans performed poorly. Lots of rot.
Yellow Wax	Carson	Johnny's	07, 08	6/3	DS	1"	3'	n	0.55	foot	1.5	8/22-8/26	'07 Some rotting beans in late August. '08 All beans performed poorly. Lots of rot.
Beet													
	Boltardy	Denali Seed Co.	06, 07, 08	5/23	DS	3-4"	3'	n	1.08	foot	2.7	7/23-8/25	Bolt resistant.
	Chioggia	Johnny's	07, 08	5/23	DS	3-4"	3'	n	1.05	foot	3.0	7/23-8/11	Unique, multicolored when cut.
	Crosby's Egyptian	Heirloom Seeds	08	5/23	DS	3-4"	3'	n	1.00	foot	2.0	7/23-8/18	Tendency to bolt.
	Cylindra	Lily Miller	06, 07, 08	5/23	DS	3-4"	3'	n	1.44	foot	2.7	7/23-8/18	Nice cylindrical-shaped beet.
	Early Blood Turnip	Heirloom Seeds	08	5/23	DS	3-4"	3'	n	1.31	foot	3.0	7/23-8/18	Tendency to bolt.
	Early Wonder	Lily Miller	08	5/23	DS	3-4"	3'	n	1.36	foot	3.0	7/23-8/11	Slight tendency to bolt.
	Red Ace	Johnny's	04, 08	5/23	DS	3-4"	3'	n	1.52	foot	2.0	7/23-8/25	Slight tendency to bolt.

Rating: 0. dead, did not germinate, total loss because of disease, etc.; 1. poor germination, susceptible to disease, insects, other problems, poor quality; 2. fair, other cultivars of its kind have been better; 3. good, worth growing, good quality; 4. outstanding, the best of its kind grown in the garden.

**Table 3. Vegetable cultivar trials, 2008 (cont.).**

Vegetable	Cultivar	Source	Years Grown	Date		Spacing			Yield (lbs)	Per	Rating	Harvest Period	Comments
				Seeded	Transplant	Within Row	Between Rows	IRT Mulch					
Beet, cont.													
	Ruby Queen	Denali	06, 07, 08	5/23	DS	3-4"	3'	n	0.85	foot	2.5	7/30-8/11	Old standard, good production.
Broccoli													
	Arcadia	Stokes	08	4/22	5/22	16"	3'	n	0.89	plant	3.0	7/8-7/14*	
	Calabrese	Heirloom Seeds	08	4/22	5/22	16"	3'	n	0.27	plant	2.0	7/8-7/28*	'08 low yields.
	De Cicco	Heirloom Seeds	08	4/22	5/22	16"	3'	n	0.30	plant	2.0	7/8-7/21*	'08 low yields.
	Early Dividend	Vesey's Seeds	07, 08	4/22	5/22	16"	3'	n	0.42	plant	3.0	7/8-7/14*	Good, new, early variety; lots of laterals.
	Marathon	Johnny's	07, 08	4/22	5/22	16"	3'	n	1.08	plant	3.3	7/18-7/21*	Large, high yields. Good lateral shoot production.
	Shogun	Territorial Seed Co.	07, 08	4/22	5/22	16"	3'	n	1.86	plant	3.5	7/28-8/20*	Huge. Can reach 3-4 lbs., 14" across in Fairbanks.
Brussels Sprouts													
	Bubbles Hybrid	Territorial	06, 07, 08	3/21	5/22	24"	3'	n	0.96	plant	2.0	7/21-9/16	Consistently lower yields than 'Jade Cross'.
	Jade Cross	Stokes	07, 08	3/21	5/22	24"	3'	n	1.49	plant	3.5	7/21-9/16	Reliable variety for the Interior.
Cabbage													
	Deadon	Park Seed	08	4/22	5/22	16"	3'	n	4.07	plant	3.0	8/25-9/16	Nice cabbage.
	Dynamo	Germania Seed Co.	08	4/22	5/22	16"	3'	n	6.74	plant	3.0	8/4-8/15	Much larger than 2 lbs in our trials.
	Earliana	Burpee	07, 08	4/22	5/22	16"	3'	n	3.56	plant	3.3	7/18	Good, small, early variety.
	Early Green Arrowhead II	Johnny's	08	4/22	5/22	16"	3'	n	2.07	plant	3.0	7/10-7/24	Very early.
	Early Jersey Wakefield	Heirloom Seeds	08	4/22	5/22	16"	3'	n	3.81	plant	3.0	7/10-8/1	Nice cone-shaped cabbage, larger than 'Arrowhead.'
	Glory of Enkhuizen	Heirloom Seeds	08	4/22	5/22	16"	3'	n	6.08	plant	3.0	8/15-8/25	Moose enjoyed 'Tobia' and 'Glory of Enkhuizen.'
	Gonzales	Johnny's	07, 08	4/22	5/22	16"	3'	n	2.74	plant	2.8	7/18-7/21	Lower yield than 'Earliana' in '07. Similar to 'Earliana' in '08.
	January King	Heritage Harvest	08	4/22	5/22	16"	3'	n	5.20	plant	3.0	8/13-9/16	Late, nice color.

\* Harvest period listed for broccoli is for heads. Lateral production for all cultivars continued until after the first killing frost.

Rating: 0. dead, did not germinate, total loss because of disease, etc.; 1. poor germination, susceptible to disease, insects, other problems, poor quality; 2. fair, other cultivars of its kind have been better; 3. good, worth growing, good quality; 4. outstanding, the best of its kind grown in the garden.

**Table 3. Vegetable cultivar trials, 2008 (cont.).**

Vegetable	Cultivar	Source	Years Grown	Date		Spacing			Yield (lbs)	Per	Rating	Harvest Period	Comments
				Seeded	Transplant	Within Row	Between Rows	IRT Mulch					
Cabbage, cont.													
	Ruby Ball	Territorial	06, 07, 08	4/22	5/22	16"	3'	n	3.66	plant	3.5	8/25-9/16	Good, reliable, dense red cabbage.
	Savoy Express	All America Selections	07, 08	4/22	5/22	16"	3'	n	2.66	plant	2.8	7/10-7/18	Tip burn, good color, some mold, very early. '08 very early, good quality.
	Tobia	Stokes	08	4/22	5/22	16"	3'	n	5.59	plant	3.0	8/13-9/11	Moose enjoyed 'Tobia' and 'Glory of Enkuizen.'
Chinese Cabbage	China Choy	Seeds of Change	07, 08	6/5	DS	7"	3'	n	2.54	foot	2.3	7/24-8/15	Tendency to bolt.
Savoy	Taler	Stokes	08	4/22	5/22	1"	3'	n	5.12	plant	3.0	9/11-9/16	Nice, large, late savoy type.
Carrot													
	Adelaide	John Scheeper's Kitchen Garden Seeds	08	5/28	DS	1"	3'	n	2.18	foot	3.0	8/25-9/20	Miniature Nantes-type carrot.
	Bolero	Kitchen Garden	08	5/28	DS	1"	3'	n	1.10	foot	2.5	8/25	Sweet, good color.
	Sweetness	Denali	08	5/28	DS	1"	3'	n	0.43	foot	2.0	9/20	Good color.
	Thumbelina	Nichols	07, 08	5/28	DS	1"	3'	n	0.48	foot	3.0	8/25	Early round carrot.
Cauliflower													
	Andes	Vesey's	07, 08	4/22	5/22	16"	3'	n	2.66	plant	3.3	7/28-8/11	Consistently high yields, large heads.
	Apex	Stokes	08	4/22	5/22	16"	3'	n	0.60	plant	2.0	8/1-8/11	Low yield in '08.
	Fremont	Twilley	04, 08	4/22	5/22	16"	3'	n	2.53	plant	3.0	7/21-7/30	
	Minuteman	Stokes	07, 08	4/22	5/22	16"	3'	n	2.23	plant	3.0	7/21	Earliest in '07, nice wrapper leaves, self blanching, '08 second early.
	Snow Crown	Stokes	08	4/22	5/22	16"	3'	n	0.71	plant	3.0	7/8-7/28	Earliest cauliflower '08.
Celery													
	Florida 683	Stokes	08	3/21	6/6	4-6"	3'	n	4.59	foot	3.0	9/15	
	Utah 52-70R	Stokes	07, 08	3/21	6/6	4-6"	3'	n	5.65	foot	3.8	9/15	Consistently high yields.
Cucumber													
	Bush Pickle	Stokes	08	5/6	6/5	3' 4"	5'	y				---	'08 No data, frost damage.
	Cucino	Park Seed	07, 08	5/6	6/5	3' 4"	5'	y	19.91	plant	3.0	---	Small 2-3" baby cukes. '08 No data, frost damage.
	Genuine	Johnny's	07, 08	5/6	6/5	3' 4"	5'	y	67.46	plant	3.0	---	Bad data 07?, too high yield and avg wt., '08 No data, frost damage.

Rating: 0. dead, did not germinate, total loss because of disease, etc.; 1. poor germination, susceptible to disease, insects, other problems, poor quality; 2. fair, other cultivars of its kind have been better; 3. good, worth growing, good quality; 4. outstanding, the best of its kind grown in the garden.



**Table 3. Vegetable cultivar trials, 2008 (cont.).**

Vegetable	Cultivar	Source	Years Grown	Date		Spacing			Yield (lbs)	Per	Rating	Harvest Period	Comments
				Seeded	Transplant	Within Row	Between Rows	IRT Mulch					
Cucumber, cont.													
	Long Green Improved	Heirloom Seeds	08	5/6	6/5	3' 4"	5'	y		plant		---	'08 No data, frost damage.
	Marketmore 76	Heirloom Seeds	08	5/6	6/5	3' 4"	5'	y		plant		---	'08 No data, frost damage.
	Salad Bush	Burpee & Co.	08	5/6	6/5	3' 4"	5'	y		plant		---	'08 No data, frost damage.
	Straight Eight	Heirloom Seeds	08	5/6	6/5	3' 4"	5'	y		plant		---	'08 No data, frost damage.
	Sweet Success	Shumway's (Horticultural Products & Services)	07, 08	5/6	6/5	3' 4"	5'	y	22.63	plant	3.5	---	Slicing, consistent high yields. Bad data '07? usually among highest yield and if harvested right 12' cukes should have highest avg wt. not 2nd lowest. '08 No data, frost damage.
Multi-purpose	Cool Breeze	Nichols	07, 08	5/6	6/5	3' 4"	5'	y	58.08	plant	3.0	---	Bad data '07, Yield high?, '08 No data, frost damage.
Pickling	H-19 Little Leaf	Johnny's	07, 08	5/6	6/5	3' 4"	5'	y	23.78	plant	3.0	---	Excellent pickling cucumber, small leaves make it easy to pick. '08 No data, frost damage.
Eggplant													
	Casper	Territorial	07, 08	3/21	6/6	1.5'	1.5'	y	0.30	plant	2.5	---	Nice pure white eggplant, lower yield than 'Snowy' or 'Tango'. No eggplants produced mature fruit in '08.
	Fairy Tale	All America Selections	07, 08	3/21	6/6	1.5'	1.5'	y	1.27	plant	3.5	---	Pretty lavender with white streaks, high yield. No eggplants produced mature fruit in '08.
	Ichiban	Garden City Seeds	07, 08	3/21	6/6	1.5'	1.5'	y	0.76	plant	2.5	---	Medium yield. No eggplants produced mature fruit in '08.
	Orient Express	Johnny's	08	3/21	6/6	1.5'	1.5'	y				---	No eggplants produced mature fruit in '08.
	Ravenna Hybrid	Park Seed	07, 08	3/21	6/6	1.5'	1.5'	y	0.45	plant	2.0	---	Small, single serving, green eggplant, lower yields. No eggplants produced mature fruit in '08.
	Tango	Johnny's	07, 08	3/21	6/6	1.5'	1.5'	y	1.00	plant	3.0	---	Nice white eggplant, high yield. No eggplants produced mature fruit in '08.

Rating: 0. dead, did not germinate, total loss because of disease, etc.; 1. poor germination, susceptible to disease, insects, other problems, poor quality; 2. fair, other cultivars of its kind have been better; 3. good, worth growing, good quality; 4. outstanding, the best of its kind grown in the garden.

**Table 3. Vegetable cultivar trials, 2008 (cont.).**

Vegetable	Cultivar	Source	Years Grown	Date		Spacing			Yield (lbs)	Per	Rating	Harvest Period	Comments
				Seeded	Transplant	Within Row	Between Rows	IRT Mulch					
Greens													
8 Japanese Mustard	Komatsuna	Stokes	07, 08	6/5	DS	12"	3'	n	2.54	foot	2.5	7/24-8/15	Tendency to bolt.
Kale													
	Red Russian	Johnny's	07, 08	5/23	DS	10"	3'	n	0.96	foot	2.0	7/24-9/11	Consistent high yields, attractive in garden, poor germination in '07.
	Redbor	Territorial	07, 08	5/23	DS	10"	3'	n	1.49	foot	2.5	7/24-9/11	Poor germination in '07. Good yield in '08.
	Winterbor	Johnny's	07, 08	5/23	DS	10"	3'	n	2.98	foot	2.8	7/24-9/11	Very good, attractive, reliable kale.
Kohlrabi													
	Early Purple Vienna	Heirloom Seeds	08	5/28	DS	4-5"	3'	n	1.09	foot	3.0	8/8-9/3	Heirloom variety.
	Early White Vienna	Heirloom Seeds	08	5/28	DS	4-5"	3'	n	1.70	foot	3.0	8/4-9/3	Heirloom variety.
	Kolibri	Johnny's	07, 08	5/28	DS	4-5"	3'	n	1.84	foot	3.0	8/4-9/3	Excellent purple-skinned kohlrabi.
	White Winner	Johnny's	08	5/28	DS	4-5"	3'	n	1.58	foot	3.0	8/4-9/3	
Leek													
	Arena	Vesey's	07, 08	3/11	6/5	3"	3'	n	1.03	foot	2.0	9/11	Lower yield than others.
	Baby Lincoln	Kitchen Garden	06, 07, 08	3/11	6/5	0.5"	3'	n	2.43	foot	3.0	9/11	Versatile, high yields.
	Giant Musselburg	Heirloom Seeds	08	3/11	6/5	3"	3'	n	1.95	foot	3.0	9/11	Good quality.
	Kilima	Nichols	07, 08	3/11	6/5	3"	3'	n	1.75	foot	3.0	9/11	Medium yield in '07.
	King Richard	Johnny's	07, 08	3/11	6/5	3"	3'	n	1.82	foot	2.8	9/11	Nice leek, good yields.
Lettuce													
Butterhead	Buttercrunch	Irish Eyes & Garden City Seeds	05, 08	4/22	6/6	12"	3'	n	0.98	plant	2.5	7/14	2005 slight tip burn.
Butterhead	Edox M.I.	Stokes	04, 08	4/22	6/6	12"	3'	n	0.89	plant	2.0	7/14	Nice deep red color.
Butterhead	Esmeralda M.I.	Stokes	04, 08	4/22	6/6	12"	3'	n	0.94	plant	2.3	7/14	Bad tipburn, good color.
Butterhead	Grappa Butterhead	Kitchen Garden	05, 07, 08	4/22	6/6	12"	3'	n	1.14	plant	3.0	7/14	Good quality.
Crisphead	Crispino	Johnny's	05, 07, 08	4/22	6/6	12"	3'	n	2.28	plant	3.0	7/18	Nice green crisphead.

Rating: 0. dead, did not germinate, total loss because of disease, etc.; 1. poor germination, susceptible to disease, insects, other problems, poor quality; 2. fair, other cultivars of its kind have been better; 3. good, worth growing, good quality; 4. outstanding, the best of its kind grown in the garden.



**Table 3. Vegetable cultivar trials, 2008 (cont.).**

Vegetable	Cultivar	Source	Years Grown	Date		Spacing			Yield (lbs)	Per	Rating	Harvest Period	Comments
				Seeded	Transplant	Within Row	Between Rows	IRT Mulch					
Lettuce, cont.													
Crisphead	Maverick	Stokes	08	4/22	6/6	12"	3'	n	2.07	plant	3.0	7/18	Green frilly-edged crisphead.
Leaf	Bergamo	Johnny's	08	6/6	DS	10"	3'	n	1.10	foot	3.0	8/11-8/26	Light green lollo type.
Leaf	Little River Blend	Territorial	07, 08	6/6	DS	10"	3'	n	0.83	foot	2.0	8/11-8/26	No longer commonly available.
Leaf	Oscarde	Johnny's	08	6/6	DS	10"	3'	n	0.60	foot	2.0	8/11-8/26	Red oakleaf.
Leaf	Red Sails	Johnny's	04, 07, 08	6/6	DS	10"	3'	n	2.19	foot	3.3	8/11-8/26	Good color, no bugs, healthy. Poor germination in '07.
Leaf	Revolution	Territorial	04, 08	6/6	DS	10"	3'	n	1.34	foot	2.5	8/11-8/26	Beautiful, holds well.
Leaf	Ruby Ruffles	Park Seed	04, 08	6/6	DS	10"	3'	n	2.51	foot	2.5	8/11-8/26	Good color. Poor germination in '08
Leaf	Soltero	Johnny's	08	6/6	DS	10"	3'	n	1.27	foot	3.0	8/11-8/26	Dark red lollo type.
Romaine	Cimarron Red	Garden City	04, 07, 08	4/22	6/6	12"	3'	n	1.37	plant	2.8	7/8-7/14	Slight tendency to bolt.
Romaine	Eruption	Vesey's	04, 05, 08	4/22	6/6	12"	3'	n	1.32	plant	3.0	7/14	Good color, little tipburn, no rot. Healthy! 2005 1 of 5 bolting late July.
Romaine	Giant Caesar	Burpee	04, 08	4/22	6/6	12"	3'	n	2.12	plant	2.0	7/14	Susceptible to tipburn.
Romaine	Red Rosie	Johnny's	08	4/22	6/6	12"	3'	n	1.19	plant	3.0	7/14	Very deep red.
Pea													
Garden	Alderman	Heirloom Seeds	08	5/30	DS	1"	3'	n	0.92	foot	2.5	7/25-9/9	Large pods.
Garden	British Wonder	Heirloom Seeds	08	5/30	DS	1"	3'	n	1.06	foot	3.0	7/25-9/9	Very sweet.
Garden	Lincoln	Stokes	04, 08	5/30	DS	1"	3'	n	1.08	foot	3.0	7/25-9/9	Small, sweet peas.
Garden	Mr. Big	Stokes	07, 08	5/30	DS	1"	3'	n	1.48	foot	3.0	7/25-9/9	Really big, but difficult to identify mature pods.
Garden	Thomas Laxton	Heirloom Seeds	08	5/30	DS	1"	3'	n	0.85	foot	2.5	7/25-9/9	Large but sweet dark green peas.
Semi-leafless	Feisty	Johnny's	07, 08	5/30	DS	1"	3'	n	0.81	foot	2.5	7/30-9/9	Replacement for Novella.
Semi-leafless	Survivor	Burpee	07, 08	5/30	DS	1"	3'	n	1.34	foot	3.5	7/30-9/9	Replacement for Novella. Highest yield of semi-leafless peas.
Snap	Cascadia	Stokes	08	5/30	DS	1"	3'	n	0.21	foot	2.0	7/25-8/20	Nice, short-vined sugar snap type.
Snap	Sugar Ann	Johnny's	07, 08	5/30	DS	1"	3'	n	0.78	foot	3.0	7/25-9/9	Early, short-vined snap peas.
Snap	Sugar Snap	Johnny's	04, 08	5/30	DS	1"	3'	n	1.41	foot	4.0	7/30-9/9	Original snap pea.

Rating: 0. dead, did not germinate, total loss because of disease, etc.; 1. poor germination, susceptible to disease, insects, other problems, poor quality; 2. fair, other cultivars of its kind have been better; 3. good, worth growing, good quality; 4. outstanding, the best of its kind grown in the garden.

**Table 3. Vegetable cultivar trials, 2008 (cont.).**

Vegetable	Cultivar	Source	Years Grown	Date		Spacing			Yield (lbs)	Per	Rating	Harvest Period	Comments
				Seeded	Transplant	Within Row	Between Rows	IRT Mulch					
Pea, cont.													
10 Snap	Super Sugar Snap	Harris Seeds	04, 08	5/30	DS	1"	3'	n	1.03	foot	3.5	7/25-8/27	Excellent taste.
Snow	Oregon Sugar Pod II	Territorial	04, 07, 08	5/30	DS	1"	3'	n	1.61	foot	3.2	7/25-9/9	Excellent snow pea.
Snow	Snow Green	Johnny's	08	5/30	DS	1"	3'	n	2.11	foot	4.0	7/25-9/9	
Pepper													
	Ace	Johnny's	07, 08	4/1	6/6	1'	1.5'	y	1.01	plant	3.3	7/21-9/16	Excellent green bell pepper for the Interior.
	Biscayne	Stokes	07, 08	4/1	6/6	1'	1.5'	y	0.95	plant	2.8	8/22-9/16	Nice pale green sweet banana-type pepper.
	Blushing Beauty	All America Selections	07, 08	4/1	6/6	1'	1.5'	y	0.61	plant	2.5	8/29-9/16	Light yellow, maturing to red, bell pepper.
	Carmen	All America Selections	08	4/1	6/6	1'	1.5'	y	0.69	plant	3.0	7/21-9/16	Sweet Italian bull's horn type.
	Early Jalapeno	Johnny's	07, 08	4/1	6/6	1'	1.5'	y	0.32	plant	2.5	7/21-9/16	Nice early jalapeno.
	Giant Marconi	All America Selections	08	4/1	6/6	1'	1.5'	y	0.57	plant	2.5	8/29	6-8" tapered green pepper.
	Holy Mole	All America Selections	06, 07, 08	4/1	6/6	1'	1.5'	y	0.68	plant	2.7	8/22-9/16	Mildly hot pasilla (mole) pepper.
	Hungarian Semi-hot Stuffing	Nichols	07, 08	4/1	6/6	1'	1.5'	y	0.44	plant	2.5	7/28-9/16	Replacement for 'Hungarian Yellow Hot Wax'.
	Mariachi	All America Selections	07, 08	4/1	6/6	1'	1.5'	y	0.89	plant	3.0	7/21-9/16	Mildly hot cone-shaped 4"x2" pepper.
	Redstart	Stokes	08	4/1	6/6	1'	1.5'	y	1.04	plant	3.5	7/21-9/16	
	Super Cayenne II	All America Selections	04, 08	4/1	6/6	1'	1.5'	y	0.10	plant	2.8	8/29-9/16	Really incredibly hot!
	Thai Dragon	Burpee	07, 08	4/1	6/6	1'	1.5'	y	0.39	plant	2.5	9/3-9/16	Very hot!
Container	Mohawk	Park Seed	07, 08	4/1	6/6	Pots	Pots	n	0.30	plant	2.5	9/5-9/16	Compact bell developed for containers. Grown in two-gal. nursery containers.
Container	Redskin	Park Seed	07, 08	4/1	6/6	Pots	Pots	n	0.76	plant	2.8	8/26-9/5	Compact red bell developed for containers. Grown in two-gal. nursery containers.

Rating: 0. dead, did not germinate, total loss because of disease, etc.; 1. poor germination, susceptible to disease, insects, other problems, poor quality; 2. fair, other cultivars of its kind have been better; 3. good, worth growing, good quality; 4. outstanding, the best of its kind grown in the garden.

**Table 3. Vegetable cultivar trials, 2008 (cont.).**

Vegetable	Cultivar	Source	Years Grown	Date		Spacing			Yield (lbs)	Per	Rating	Harvest Period	Comments
				Seeded	Transplant	Within Row	Between Rows	IRT Mulch					
Pumpkin													
	Appalachian	Stokes	07, 08	4/29	6/5	7'	7'	y	113.52	plant	2.8	9/26	Largest pumpkin in '07. None matured in '08.
	Baby Pam	Johnny's	07, 08	4/29	6/5	7'	7'	y	15.39	plant	3.0	9/26	Small pie pumpkin.
	Connecticut Field	Germania Seed Co.	07, 08	4/29	6/5	7'	7'	y	77.31	plant	3.0	9/26	Large, consistently high yield.
	Lumina	Nichols	07, 08	4/29	6/5	7'	7'	y	24.87	plant	2.5	9/26	Nice white-skinned pumpkin.
	New England Pie	Johnny's	08	4/29	6/5	7'	7'	y	3.00	plant	2.5	9/26	Heirloom, small-sized, pie pumpkin.
	Orange Smoothie	All America Selections	07, 08	4/29	6/5	7'	7'	y	16.57	plant	2.3	9/26	Bright orange skins when mature. Yields lower than most.
	Racer	Johnny's	07, 08	4/29	6/5	7'	7'	y	55.59	plant	3.5	9/26	Earliest to turn orange.
	Rock Star	Johnny's	07, 08	4/29	6/5	7'	7'	y	84.48	plant	3.8	9/26	Excellent large pumpkin, consistently high yields.
	Sorcerer	All America Selections	07, 08	4/29	6/5	7'	7'	y	137.23	plant	4.0	9/26	Excellent production from a compact vine.
Radish													
	Cabernet	Johnny's	07, 08	5/30	DS	1"	3'	n	0.26	foot	2.5	6/30	Low yield in '07.
	Easter Egg	Johnny's	08	5/30	DS	1"	3'	n	0.25	foot	2.5	6/30	Mix of red, purple, and white radishes.
	Rudi	Nichols	08	5/30	DS	1"	3'	n	0.24	foot	2.5	6/30	Dark red round radish.
Rutabaga													
	The Laurentian	Stokes	07, 08	5/30	DS	5-6"	3'	n	2.77	foot	3.0	8/11	
Spinach													
	Correnta	Shepherd's Garden Seeds	04, 07, 08	5/30	DS	3"	3'	n	0.69	foot	2.3	7/14	Lower yields than 'Melody'.
	Melody	Stokes	07, 08	5/30	DS	4"	3'	n	0.82	foot	3.0	7/14	Most reliable for Fairbanks, resists bolting.
Squash													
Summer	Early Golden Crookneck	Thompson & Morgan	06, 07, 08	5/6	6/5	3' 4"	5'	y	4.04	plant	1.7	7/24-9/26	Late, susceptible to blossom end rot.
Summer	Magda	Park Seed	06, 07, 08	5/6	6/5	3' 4"	5'	y	37.13	plant	3.0	7/21-9/26	Mediterranean type, more intense flavor.

Rating: 0. dead, did not germinate, total loss because of disease, etc.; 1. poor germination, susceptible to disease, insects, other problems, poor quality; 2. fair, other cultivars of its kind have been better; 3. good, worth growing, good quality; 4. outstanding, the best of its kind grown in the garden.

**Table 3. Vegetable cultivar trials, 2008 (cont.).**

Vegetable	Cultivar	Source	Years Grown	Date		Spacing			Yield (lbs)	Per	Rating	Harvest Period	Comments
				Seeded	Transplant	Within Row	Between Rows	IRT Mulch					
Squash, cont.													
12 Summer	Papaya Pear	All America Selections	07, 08	5/6	6/5	3' 4"	5'	y	21.34	plant	3.3	7/21-9/26	Interesting papaya shape, sweet mild flavor.
Summer, Zucchini	Eight Ball	Stokes	07, 08	5/6	6/5	3' 4"	5'	y	35.04	plant	3.5	7/14-9/26	Ball-shaped zucchini.
Summer, Zucchini	Milano Black	Kitchen Garden	08	5/6	6/5	3' 4"	5'	y	20.60	plant	2.5	7/28-9/26	Very dark-skinned zucchini. Slightly later than others.
Summer, Zucchini	Radiant	Stokes	08	5/6	6/5	3' 4"	5'	y	31.23	plant	3.5	7/21-9/26	Dark green zucchini, high yields.
Winter	Blue Hubbard	Heirloom Seeds	08	4/29	6/4	3' 4"	7'	y	7.15	plant	2.0	9/26	Winter Squash yields were low in '08.
Winter	Bonbon	All America Selections	08	4/29	6/4	3' 4"	7'	y	1.76	plant	2.0	9/26	Winter Squash yields were low in '08.
Winter	Boston Marrow	Heritage Harvest	08	4/29	6/4	3' 4"	7'	y	14.66	plant	3.0	9/26	Winter Squash yields were low in '08.
Winter	Heavenly Hubbard	Stokes	08	4/29	6/4	3' 4"	7'	y	16.95	plant	3.0	9/26	Winter Squash yields were low in '08.
Winter	Red October	Stokes	08	4/29	6/4	3' 4"	7'	y	8.92	plant	2.5	9/26	Winter Squash yields were low in '08.
Sweet Corn													
	Aladdin	Stokes	05, 08	5/13	DS	3' 4"	5'	y	1.29	foot	3.0	---	No sweet corn matured in '08. Delicious bi-color Sugary Enhanced (SE) Sweet Corn. Latest of the four cultivars tested.
	Earlivee	Territorial	04, 05, 08	5/13	DS	3' 4"	5'	y	4.52	foot	3.0	---	No sweet corn matured in '08. 3rd early in our trials, 2nd largest ears.
	Polar Vee	Vermont Bean Seed Company	04, 05, 08	5/13	DS	3' 4"	5'	y	5.63	foot	2.5	---	No sweet corn matured in '08. 2nd early, bigger than Yukon Chief, but not as yellow.
	Seneca Horizon	Territorial	08	5/13	DS	3' 4"	5'	y	0.00	foot		---	No sweet corn matured in '08.
	Yukon Chief	Denali	04, 05, 08	5/13	DS	3' 4"	5'	y	2.25	foot	2.0	---	No sweet corn matured in '08. Earliest, open pollinated, small ears.
Swiss Chard													
	Bright Lights	Johnny's	07, 08	5/23	DS	12"	3'	n	1.82	foot	2.8	7/24-9/11	Multicolor stems. Tends to bolt. Leaves smaller than other chard.
	Golden Sunrise	Johnny's	07, 08	5/23	DS	12"	3'	n	1.19	foot	2.5	7/24-9/11	Orange veins and stems.

Rating: 0. dead, did not germinate, total loss because of disease, etc.; 1. poor germination, susceptible to disease, insects, other problems, poor quality; 2. fair, other cultivars of its kind have been better; 3. good, worth growing, good quality; 4. outstanding, the best of its kind grown in the garden.

**Table 3. Vegetable cultivar trials, 2008 (cont.).**

Vegetable	Cultivar	Source	Years Grown	Date		Spacing			Yield (lbs)	Per	Rating	Harvest Period	Comments
				Seeded	Transplant	Within Row	Between Rows	IRT Mulch					
Tomato													
	Bush Early Girl	Tomato Growers Supply Co.	08	4/15	6/5	2' 6"	5'	y	1.05	plant	2.5	9/3-9/16	Late, relatively large fruit.
	Early Tanana	Denali	04, 05, 08	4/15	6/5	2' 6"	5'	y	1.39	plant	2.0	9/3-9/16	Only harvested three times, data is bad representation for '04.
	Prairie Fire	Tomato Growers	08	4/15	6/6	2' 6"	5'	y	0.32	plant	3.0	9/3-9/16	Best large tomato for Interior in our trials. Avg. yield '04-'06 = 3.57 lb./ plant.
	Siberian	Tomato Growers	08	4/15	6/5	2' 6"	5'	y	0.19	plant	2.5	9/5-9/16	Early, larger fruited than Stupice and Sub-Arctic 25.
	Siletz	Territorial	05, 08	4/15	6/5	2' 6"	5'	y	0.11	plant	1.5	9/5-9/16	Later maturing, low-yielding large tomato.
	Sprite	Tomato Growers	08	4/15	6/5	2' 6"	5'	y	0.06	plant	2.0	7/28-9/16	Later maturing, miniature tomatoes, low yields.
	Stupice	Territorial	04, 08	4/15	6/5	2' 6"	5'	y	3.28	plant	3.0	8/6-9/16	Small, very early, high-yielding tomato.
	Sub-Arctic 25	Denali	04, 05, 08	4/15	6/5	2' 6"	5'	y	2.50	plant	2.7	8/15-9/16	Longtime standard outdoor tomato for the Interior.
Container	Jolly	All America Selections	05, 07, 08	3/21	6/5	Pots	Pots	n	1.81	plant	2.5	7/21-9/16	Container tomato. Grown in 4-gal. nursery containers.
Container	Sugary	All America Selections	05, 07, 08	3/21	6/5	Pots	Pots	n	1.22	plant	1.8	7/21-9/16	Container tomato. Grown in 4-gal. nursery containers.
Turnip													
	Tokyo Cross	Burpee	07, 08	5/30	DS	4"	3'	n	1.45	foot	3.0	7/24	Nice small white turnip. High yields.
	White Lady	Stokes	07, 08	5/30	DS	4"	3'	n	1.76	foot	3.0	7/24	Nice white turnip, similar to 'Tokyo Cross'.

## Seed and Plant Sources

The list does not include all possible seed and plant sources. The list reflects sources from which the Georgeson Botanical Garden has received seeds/plants for the 2008 vegetable trials. No endorsement of companies should be implied by those listed, nor criticism intended of those not listed.

### ALASKA SOURCES

Denali Seed, PO Box 111425, Anchorage AK 99511, [www.denaliseed.com](http://www.denaliseed.com)

### COMMERCIAL WHOLESALE AND RESEARCH SOURCES (SEEDS AND PLANTS NOT SOLD DIRECTLY TO THE PUBLIC)

'AAS' All American Selections, 1311 Butterfield Rd. Suite 310, Downer's Grove IL 60515, [www.all-americaselections.org](http://www.all-americaselections.org)

Rating: 0. dead, did not germinate, total loss because of disease, etc.; 1. poor germination, susceptible to disease, insects, other problems, poor quality; 2. fair, other cultivars of its kind have been better; 3. good, worth growing, good quality; 4. outstanding, the best of its kind grown in the garden.

## RETAIL SOURCES OF PLANTS/SEEDS

Burpee (see W. Atlee Burpee & Co.)

Comstock Ferree & Co., 263 Main St., Wethersfield CT 06109 [www.comstockferre.com](http://www.comstockferre.com)

Cook's Garden, PO Box 535, Londonderry VT 05148, [www.cooksgarden.com](http://www.cooksgarden.com)

Garden City Seeds, 5045 Robinson Cyn Rd. Ellensburg, WA 98926, [www.gardencityseeds.net](http://www.gardencityseeds.net)

Germania Seed Co., 5978 N Northwest Hwy, Chicago IL 60631, [www.germaniaseed.com](http://www.germaniaseed.com)

Harris Seeds, PO Box 24966, Rochester NY 14624-0966, [www.harrisseed.com](http://www.harrisseed.com)

Heirloom Seeds, 287 E. Finley Dr. West Finley PA 15377, [www.heirloomseeds.com](http://www.heirloomseeds.com)

Heritage Harvest Seed, Box 40, RR3, Carman, MB R0G 0J0, Canada,  
[www.heritageharvestseed.com](http://www.heritageharvestseed.com)

John Scheepers Kitchen Garden Seeds, 23 Tulip Dr PO Box 638, Bantam CT 06750,  
[www.kitchengardenseeds.com](http://www.kitchengardenseeds.com)

Johnny's Selected Seeds, 1 Foss Hill Rd, Albion ME 044910, [www.johnnyseeds.com](http://www.johnnyseeds.com)

Lilly Miller, 1340 Treat Blvd., Suite 650 Walnut Creek, CA 94597, [www.lillymiller.com](http://www.lillymiller.com)

Nichols Garden Nursery, 1190 N Pacific Hwy, Albany OR 97321, [www.gardennursery.com](http://www.gardennursery.com)

Park Seeds, 2 Parkton Ave, Greenwood SC 29649, [www.parkseed.com](http://www.parkseed.com)

Seedway, 99 Industrial Rd., Elizabethtown PA 17022, [www.seedway.com](http://www.seedway.com)

Seeds of Change, PO Box 15700, Santa Fe NM 87501, [www.seedsofchange.com](http://www.seedsofchange.com)

Shepherd's Garden Seeds, 30 Irene St, Torrington CT 06790, [www.shepherdseeds.com](http://www.shepherdseeds.com)

Stokes Seeds, PO Box 548, Buffalo NY 14240, [www.stokeseeds.com](http://www.stokeseeds.com)

Territorial Seed Co., PO Box 157, Cottage Grove OR 97424, [www.territorial-seed.com](http://www.territorial-seed.com)

'T&M' Thompson & Morgan Seed Co., Box 1308, Jackson NJ, [www.thompson-morgan.com](http://www.thompson-morgan.com)

Tomato Growers Supply Co., P. O. Box 60015, Fort Myers FL 33906,  
[www.tomatogrowers.com](http://www.tomatogrowers.com)

Twilley Seed, 121 Gary Rd., Hodges SC 29653, [www.twilleyseed.com](http://www.twilleyseed.com)

Vermont Bean Seed Company, 334 W. Stroud St., Randolph WI 53956,  
[www.vermontbean.com](http://www.vermontbean.com)

Vesey's Seeds, Ltd., PO Box 9000, Calais ME 04619-6102, [www.veseys.com](http://www.veseys.com)

W. Atlee Burpee & Co., 300 Park Ave, Warminster PA 18991, [www.burpee.com](http://www.burpee.com)

West Coast Seeds, 3925 64 St, Delta BC V4K3N2 Canada, [www.westcoastseeds.com](http://www.westcoastseeds.com)

## About the Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station

The federal Hatch Act of 1887 authorized establishment of agricultural experiment stations in the U.S. and its territories to provide science-based research information to farmers. The Morrill Act established the land-grant colleges in 1862. The Alaska Agricultural Experiment Station was not originally part of the Alaska land-grant college system. In 1898, the station was established in Sitka, also the site of Alaska's first experiment farm. Subsequent branches were opened at Kodiak, Kenai, Rampart, Copper Center,

Fairbanks, and Matanuska. The latter two remain as the Fairbanks Experiment Farm and the Matanuska Experiment Farm. The USDA established the Fairbanks experiment station in 1906 on a site that in 1915 provided land for a college. In 1931, the experiment station was transferred from federal ownership to the college, and in 1935 the college was renamed the University of Alaska. Early experiment station researchers developed adapted cultivars of grains, grasses, potatoes, and berries, and introduced many vegetable cultivars appropriate to Alaska. Animal and poultry management was also important. This work continues, as does research in soils and revegetation, forest ecology and management, and rural and economic development. As the state faces new challenges in agriculture and resource management, the Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station continues to bring state-of-the-art research information to the people of Alaska.

*Without our dedicated volunteers, continued growth  
and success of the Georgeson Botanical Garden  
would not be possible.*

**A big thank you to our  
2008 volunteers!**

*To join these valued people, call Jan Hanscom at  
474-6921*

Walt Babula, Kathy Baum, Deb Benson, Cathi Bouton, Holly Buzby, Jane Campbell, Carolyn Chapin, Olga Cook, Virginia Damron, Susan Dearborn, Donna Dinsmore, Liz Fuerst, Gail Garregues, Ethan Gridley (Eagle Scout), Phyllis Haggland, Judy Harris, Shirley Harris, Kate Hedstrom, Bette Higbie, Hilary Houghton, Victoria Hill, Helen Howard, Ted Kegler, Jeff Karrick, Dee King, Nancy Kilgore, Joanne Klumb, Deb Koons, Sherry Lewis, Susan Lightbody, Carol Ann Lovejoy, Gail Marakami, Gail Mayo, Rose Meier, Martin and Sue Miller, Andee Mitchell, Marsha Munsell, Peggy O'Neal, Mary Parsons, Asa Pendergast (Eagle Scout), Emily Reiter, Debbie Rimer, Susan Risse, Ann Roberts, Lou Rowinski, Barb Rondine, Kathy Seim, Annie Sherman, Libby Silberling, Melody Springer, Ann Swift, Shirley Sterner, Phylis Slone, Curtis Thorgaard, Dida Uotila, Eileen VanWyhe, Maggie Waite, Judy Weber, Susie Zimmerman, Spring Fest volunteers, University Park 2nd grades, The Herb Bunch, the GBG Society Board consisting of Virginia Damron, Diane Hunt, Jamie Smith, Mike Salzman, Curtis Thorgaard, Carolyn Chapin, Melody Springer, Deb Koons and the many others who made the Victorian Tea and Garden Faire a success.



*Vegetable trial research plots on the Fairbanks Experiment Farm, summer 2008.*  
—SNRAS file photo

## Special thanks to our partners and volunteers who support the Garden with seeds and other donations:

All America Selections, Flower and Vegetable Seeds

Goldsmith Seeds, Flower seeds

Kieft Seeds, Flower seeds

PanAmerican seeds, Flower seeds

Risse Greenhouses, Plants and supply discounts

USDA Plant Introduction Stations, NC7, Iowa State Univ., Plants and seeds

