2020 Pumpkin Variety Trial **Nathan Johanning** Extension Educator, Commercial Agriculture

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"Pumpkin" Trends

- The market for pumpkins and other fall items has been increasing
- Diversity in shape size and color is very popular
 - It's not just the standard orange Jack O'Lantern anymore!



2020 Variety Trial

University of Illinois Extension

Waterloo, Illinois

- Variety trial at the 2020 Pumpkin Field Day
 - SIU Belleville Research Center (southern IL)
- No-till, transplanted/wheat stubble
 - Transplanted June 29, 2020
 - Conventional production management practices
 - 54 Varieties: Specialty & Jack-O-Lantern
 - 2 row plots 40 ft long
 - Spacing:
 - Specialty and Medium Jack-O-Lanterns at 4 ft x 6 ft (24 sq
 - Large Specialties & Jack-O-Lanterns and at 4 ft x 8 ft (32 sq

Data Collected

- Observational trial, single replication
 - Harvest September
 - Yield (based on 5 plant harvest)
 - Weight
 - Notes fruit characteristics
 - size, shape, color, etc.



Specialty

Whites, Wartys, Blues, Reds, Tans...











Specialty

Large



Jack O'Lantern

Under 25 lbs





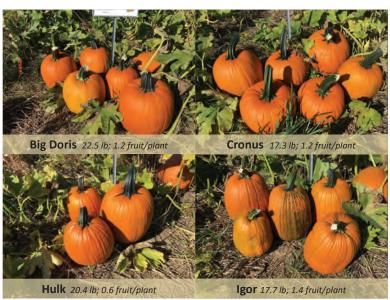
















Summary

- This is just a taste of some of the many options to fill your pumpkin niche
- Consider your market opportunity
- Farm Market, retail, wholesale
- Yield isn't everything...but it is important
- Remember this is one observation from one season, in one geography; all of these factors can change performance.
- For the FULL Report and pictures of all varieties search online: "Midwest Vegetable Variety Trial Report" and look in "2020"

Thanks to...

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Thanks to...

- Trial Work
 - SIU Belleville Research Center
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