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Strawberry Variety Trial

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Strawberry Variety Trial

Abstract
The purpose of this multi-year study is to compare the performance of some newer released USDA varieties with the current industry varieties under soil and environmental conditions existing at the Southeast Research and Demonstration Farm.

Disciplines
Agricultural Science | Agriculture

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Strawberry Variety Trial

Patrick O’Malley, commercial horticulture field specialist
ISU Extension
Kevin Van Dee, farm superintendent

Introduction
The purpose of this multi-year study is to compare the performance of some newer released USDA varieties with the current industry varieties under soil and environmental conditions existing at the Southeast Research and Demonstration Farm.

Materials and Methods
The strawberry trial consists of nine June bearing varieties, including the newer varieties Primetime, Mohawk, Winona, and Delmarvel. The trial was planted on April 25, 1998. Standard cultural practices were used, including mulching for winter protection.

Results and Discussion
The strawberry trial in 2002 was greatly impacted by a series of spring frosts in May. The overall yield of the trial was down nearly two-thirds from the previous three-year average (Table 1). Kent had the highest yield for the third time in four years and had the second least decline (51%) in yield. Winona, a late season berry, had the second highest yield, and the least decline in yield (36%). This could be explained by Winona’s relatively late flowering, and a tendency to bloom under the canopy of leaves (unlike other varieties).

Acknowledgments
Strawberry plants were graciously provided by Indiana Berry & Plant Co., Huntingburg, IN.

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<thead>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Kent</td>
<td>21,349</td>
<td>10,528</td>
<td>- 51</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cavendish</td>
<td>16,730</td>
<td>4,611</td>
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<td>Honeyeye</td>
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<td>Primetime</td>
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<td>Annapolis</td>
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<td>Mohawk</td>
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<td>3,703</td>
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<td>Winona</td>
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<tr>
<td>Delmarvel</td>
<td>8,725</td>
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