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Strawberry Cultivar Trial

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Strawberry Cultivar Trial

Abstract
The purpose of this multiyear study is to compare the performance of newer strawberry cultivars with popular Iowa-grown older cultivars under soil and environmental conditions at the Northeast Research and Demonstration Farm.

Disciplines
Agricultural Science | Agriculture
Strawberry Cultivar Trial

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Introduction
The purpose of this multiyear study is to compare the performance of newer strawberry cultivars with popular Iowa-grown older cultivars under soil and environmental conditions at the Northeast Research and Demonstration Farm.

Materials and Methods
The strawberry trial consists of eight June-bearing cultivars, including the newer cultivars Primetime, Northeastern, Winona, and Mesabi. The trial was planted in May of 2002. Standard cultural practices were used, including mulching for winter protection.

Results and Discussion
For the third year in a row Mesabi, one of the newer cultivars, had the highest yield. Jewel had the second-highest yield and largest berry size. Yields and berry weight were down considerably in both 2005 and 2004 when compared with 2003. Reductions in both years were attributed to early May freeze events that damaged most of the king berries. Although relative yield was still rather low, Winona, the latest-ripening cultivar, was the only cultivar to substantially exceed 2004 yield totals. Thus far over the first three years, it appears that Mesabi and Jewel have been the most consistent performers for size and yield.

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

Table 1. Strawberry cultivar yield and berry weight for 2005, 2004, and 2003.1

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<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mesabi</td>
<td>17,500</td>
<td>25,500 - 34,100</td>
<td>9.3 - 11.9 - 17.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jewel</td>
<td>15,700</td>
<td>20,600 - 26,200</td>
<td>13.4 - 13.4 - 19.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Glooscap</td>
<td>14,900</td>
<td>17,400 - 19,100</td>
<td>6.9 - 10.8 - 14.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kent</td>
<td>14,600</td>
<td>23,300 - 27,800</td>
<td>7.9 - 12.5 - 14.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Honeyoye</td>
<td>13,100</td>
<td>17,200 - 27,700</td>
<td>7.6 - 9.1 - 17.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Winona</td>
<td>10,100</td>
<td>7,700 - 9,900</td>
<td>10.7 - 10.9 - 17.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Northeastern</td>
<td>8,300</td>
<td>8,200 - 8,700</td>
<td>10.3 - 9.8 - 12.7</td>
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<td>Primetime</td>
<td>7,800</td>
<td>10,600 - 15,800</td>
<td>8.5 - 12.3 - 17.3</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1Means of three replications.
2Average weight from first three harvests.