

## 2015 Greenbank Farm Radish Variety Trial

We evaluated 10 varieties of round radishes: 8 red varieties and 2 pink varieties. We did two side-by-side replications. The trial was conducted in the middle of the summer so that we could evaluate how well the radishes held up to summer heat without getting pithy or unpalatable. This was a particularly hot summer, even for Whidbey Island.

Rudi from Osborne Seed Co. is the standard red radish we use here, and it did indeed come out on top. Red Crown, also from Osborne, was a very close second. Red Crown was actually rated better than Rudi for flavor and root uniformity. Many evaluators thought Red Crown had an interesting “turnip-like” flavor and texture. Some loved it; others did not. Rudi was the spicier of the two varieties.

The flavor category is a difficult one to evaluate, especially for radishes, since there are many different palate preferences. Out of all of the characteristics we evaluated for, this was the one with the most gray area. Cherriette from Johnny’s Selected Seeds was the overall winner for flavor with our own farm-saved Pink Beauty coming in a close second.

Several varieties (including Red Crown, Rudolf, and Pink Beauty) received low ratings for overall vigor in only one of the two repetitions. Chances are that their performance was due more to field location or seeding rate as opposed to genetics.

Both strains of Cherry Belle, one from High Mowing Organic Seeds and one from Osborne Seed Co., were rated lowest overall. They both rated particularly low in skin smoothness and color.

Seeded: 8/2/2015

Evaluated: 8/27-8/28/2015

Spacing: rows 9" apart, 2 seeds/inch

Soil: Sandy loam



Eval date: 8/27/2015

Evaluation Criteria

		<i>Vigor (VG)</i>	<i>Root Uniformity (RU)</i>	<i>Skin Smoothness (SS)</i>	<i>Top Strength (TS)</i>	<i>Color (CR)</i>	<i>Flavor (FL)</i>	<b>Avg Score</b>	<b>Total Avg Score</b>
301	1	7.50	6.11	7.67	6.00	7.89	4.78	6.66	6.17
	2	7.00	5.11	6.78	4.75	7.11	3.38	5.69	
302	1	9.00	1.78	2.56	2.89	1.56	5.11	3.81	4.27
	2	8.50	3.89	2.44	5.13	4.78	3.67	4.73	
303	1	4.13	3.89	3.67	4.00	1.56	4.33	3.59	3.76
	2	3.63	4.00	2.11	5.13	2.78	5.89	3.92	
304	1	4.50	7.11	6.22	7.44	5.33	4.22	5.81	5.39
	2	2.00	7.33	4.63	6.25	4.00	5.67	4.98	
305	1	1.75	6.67	8.22	4.56	8.22	4.56	5.66	5.85
	2	2.50	7.89	7.67	6.00	7.33	4.89	6.05	
306	1	2.75	5.00	2.11	5.78	4.44	6.00	4.35	4.75
	2	6.25	3.78	4.44	4.88	5.78	5.78	5.15	
307	1	6.38	6.44	4.11	6.00	4.22	4.44	5.27	5.49
	2	5.88	5.89	6.44	6.63	4.44	5.00	5.71	
308	1	4.25	8.00	6.00	6.67	6.44	4.89	6.04	6.06
	2	1.75	7.00	7.67	7.00	7.33	5.78	6.09	
309	1	7.88	2.33	5.56	2.44	4.67	4.89	4.63	4.39
	2	8.25	1.89	5.56	1.50	4.56	3.11	4.14	
310	1	2.25	4.67	5.11	4.78	6.22	4.56	4.60	4.66
	2	5.25	4.44	4.44	2.75	4.89	6.56	4.72	

Variety	Trial #	Seed Source	Color	F1/OP
Rudi	301	OSB'15	red	OP
Cherry Belle	302	HMS'15	red	OP
Cherry Belle (Alf C. Strain)	303	OSB'15	red	OP
Rudolf	304	HMS'15	red	OP
Celesta	305	TER'15	red	F1
Cherriette	306	JSS'15	red	F1
Crunchy Royale	307	JSS'15	red	F1
Red Crown	308	OSB'15	red	F1
Pink Celebration	309	TER'15	pink	OP
Pink Beauty	310	OFS'12	pink	OP