

## Michigan Onion Variety Observation Trial, 2019

These onion variety trials were sponsored by the Michigan Onion Committee.

Participating seed companies were: Bejo, Crookham, Seminis, Solar and Takii.

Appreciation is expressed to the cooperating farmers: **Bruce & Duane Kielen - East Lansing,**

**Bruce Klamer - Byron Center, and Glen & Scott Vogel - Fremont.**

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The Trials were coordinated by Dr. Darryl Warncke, Professor emeritus, MSU.

### Vogel Farm

<u>Seed Source</u>	<u>Variety</u>	<u>Approx. Maturity</u> days	% of Yield				<u>Total Yield</u> lbs/plot	<u>Adjusted* Yield</u> lbs/plot	<u>Harvested Bulbs</u> #/7 ft
			<u>&gt; 3"</u> %	<u>2.5-3"</u> %	<u>2-2.5"</u> %	<u>&lt; 2"</u> %			
Bejo	Braddock	106	22	58	19	1	17.7	20.5	43
Bejo	Expression	105	50	40	10	1	25.3	26.4	48
Bejo	Oneida	103	36	55	8	0	25.1	23.3	54
Bejo	Prospector	104	8	56	35	1	19.6	18.8	52
Bejo	Safrane	106	0	47	48	4	18.8	16.8	56
Crookham	OLYX 08-640	110	6	56	36	2	18.3	17.6	52
Crookham	Trident	110	18	54	28	0	23.7	20.1	59
Seminis	Montclair	112	42	46	11	1	26.2	22.6	58
Seminis	Pocono	110	3	25	64	8	18.5	13.8	67
Seminis	Saddleback	100	0	32	68	1	17.6	14.4	61
Solar	Aldrin	118	9	65	26	0	21.3	19.4	55
Solar	Armstrong	108	3	65	30	2	18.4	19.6	47
Solar	Champ	110	16	55	29	0	21.0	19.8	53
Solar	Stanley	110	12	43	43	2	20.7	18.2	57
Takii	Highlander	90	22	61	16	2	15.2	19.5	39
Takii	Milestone	108	46	49	5	0	19.0	25.6	37
Takii	Traverse	100	49	41	10	0	21.1	23.9	44
<u>Reds</u>									
Crookham	Red Beret		8.4	38.9	47.4	5.2	15.6	14.0	56
Seminis	SV463NT		11.5	60.1	27.6	0.8	19.5	18.8	52
Seminis	Red Nugent		47.7	33.7	17.9	0.6	23.1	23.1	50

\*Yield adjusted for a uniform stand of 50 bulbs/ 7ft.



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## Keilen Farm

<u>Seed Source</u>	<u>Variety</u>	<u>Approx. Maturity</u> days	<u>% of Yield</u>				<u>Total Yield</u> lbs/plot	<u>Adjusted* Yield</u> lbs/plot	<u>Harvested Bulbs</u> #/8 ft
			<u>&gt; 3"</u> %	<u>2.5-3"</u> %	<u>2-2.5"</u> %	<u>&lt; 2"</u> %			
Bejo	Braddock	106	5	54	34	7	12.6	13.5	45
Bejo	Expression	105	49	51	0	0	12.8	xxx	25
Bejo	Oneida	103	21	47	26	6	17.1	17.5	47
Bejo	Prospector	104	25	45	23	7	13.3	16.8	38
Bejo	Safrane	106	16	33	45	6	17.2	15.6	53
Crookham	OLYX 08-640	110	0	39	43	18	10.5	12.3	41
Crookham	Trident	110	10	35	47	8	12.6	13.7	44
Seminis	Montclair	112	15	43	33	9	15.1	14.2	51
Seminis	Saddleback	100	0	47	46	7	12.9	13.8	45
Solar	Aldrin	118	16	54	27	3	19.4	16.7	55
Solar	Armstrong	108	5	30	57	8	11.7	10.2	55
Solar	Champ	110	0	15	56	29	8.8	8.8	48
Solar	Stanley	110	9	15	66	10	13.2	12.4	51
Takii	Highlander	90	0	36	55	9	10.0	12.0	40
Takii	Milestone	108	7	0	68	25	7.7	8.8	42
Takii	Traverse	100	0	21	62	17	9.3	10.1	44

\*Yield adjusted for a uniform stand of 48 bulbs/ 8 ft.



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## Field Growth Observations

Variety	Keilen	Keilen	Keilen	Keilen	Vogel		
	3 leaf	12-Jul	Foliaige Color	8-Aug	12-Jul	Keilen	Vogel
			27-Jul			22-Aug	23-Aug
						<u>Tops</u>	<u>Downs</u>
Aldrin	yg	lg	lg	dbg	dg	10	5
Armstrong	g	bg	dbg	dbg	dg	25	85
Braddock	yg	bg	dbg	dbg	dg	25	70
Champ	g	bg	bbg	bbg	bg	20	40
Expression	g	lyg	yg	lg	yg	80	25
Highlander	yg	bg	bg		dg	100	100
Milestone	yg	bg	bg	lbg	lg	10	20
Montclair	yg	g	g	dbg	lg	30	90
OLYX 08-640	yg	bg	bg	dbg	lg	85	100
Oneida	g	bg	bg	dbg	dg	70	65
Pocono	yg	lg	dg	dbg	b g	20	92
Prospector	g	dbg	dg	dbg	bg	10	5
Saddleback	yg	lg	lg	lbg	lg	80	95
Safrane	g	dbg	dg	dbg	dbg	15	20
Stanley	g	bg	dbg	dbg	dg	37	65
Traverse	g	bg	dbg	dbg	dg	35	97
Trident	yg	bg	bg	dbg	ly	35	55

g - green, lg - light green, yg - yellow green, bg - blue green, dbg - dark blue green



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### Summary:

This growing season was quite challenging and stressful. April through much of June was cool and wet. Then July was hot and dry.

Plant stands at the Byron Center location were severely thinned by excessive rains and saturated soil conditions. No information was collected from this location.

Topdress nitrogen was not able to be put on at the Keilen Farm until late June. This resulted in reduced growth and bulb size.

**Montclair, Oneida and Safrane** showed the best vigor and bulb quality on the Keilen and Vogel Farms.

**Champ, Trident and Traverse** did well at Vogels, but not under the more stress conditions at Keilens.

Champ especially showed very poor vigor and growth at Keilens.

**Aldrin** gave good size and yielded well, but being a longer maturity variety it did not fully mature.

**Expression** is a mild onion which gives good size and yield.