

A close-up photograph of various lettuce varieties. The leaves are covered in water droplets, creating a fresh and vibrant appearance. The colors range from deep red and purple to bright green. The background is dark, making the colors of the lettuce stand out.

North Dakota Home Garden Variety Trials

SUMMARY
2020

Summary of Results

A team of volunteers in North Dakota and surrounding states/provinces evaluated promising vegetable, herb and cut flower varieties. A team of gardeners at 369 sites rated varieties for health, earliness, yield and food/ornamental quality. Over 1,540 side-by-side comparisons were submitted.

In each trial they noted which of the two varieties they preferred (Pref) and which of the varieties they

would recommend (Rec) to other gardeners. They rated the performance of each variety using a scale of 1 to 10, with 1 = poor and 10 = excellent. The mean rating is presented in this summary.

The following is a summary of data, including our conclusions for each trial. Additional data and comments from gardeners are in the full report available at <https://www.ag.ndsu.edu/homegardenvarietytrials/>.



Bean, Green Snap

‘Annihilator’ ripened earlier at most sites. Gardeners were impressed by its dark green, slender and delicious pods. ‘Bush Blue Lake 274’ plants were healthy and produced a good crop of medium green, meaty pods all summer long.

Variety	Pref (%)	Rec (%)	Rating
Annihilator	62	82	7.79
B. Blue Lake 274	38	76	7.29
			(43 sites)



Bean, Green Snap (Organic)

‘Antigua’ germinated much better, leading to higher yields at more sites. ‘Antigua’ plants were compact and upright; well suited for raised beds. Both varieties produced high yields of delicious pods. ‘Jade’ pods were longer and straighter.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Antigua	52	80	7.91
Jade	48	66	7.25
			(49 sites)



Bean, Green Pole

‘Monte Cristo’ vines were more vigorous and produced higher yields. More gardeners preferred the pod quality of ‘Monte Cristo’, noting its straighter pods. ‘Fortex’ produced the first yields. Pods of both varieties were long and flavorful.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Fortex	23	50	6.57
Monte Cristo	77	79	7.86
			(15 sites)



Bean, Yellow Snap (Organic)

‘Gold Rush’ plants were healthy and produced a bountiful harvest of straight, flavorful pods. The poor germination of ‘Rocdor’ in all gardens suggests its poor performance may be due to poor seed quality and not the variety itself.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Gold Rush	100	100	8.56
Rocdor	0	50	6.13
			(19 sites)



Bean, Dry (Organic)

Gardeners enjoyed the beauty and flavor of both varieties. Preferences for the varieties were split evenly. ‘Calypso’ beans had a more consistent color and shape. ‘Jacob’s Cattle’ ripened earlier, and more gardeners preferred its taste.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Calypso	50	81	7.67
Jacob’s Cattle	50	81	8.20
			(17 sites)



Bean, Lima

This was our least popular trial and data are limited. Two of the four reporting gardeners had never grown lima beans before. All gardeners preferred ‘Fordhook 242’. They liked its larger pods, higher yields and its delicious flavor.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Fordhook 242	100	100	9.25
Henderson	0	50	8.00
			(4 sites)



Beet, Gold (Organic)

These varieties received similar ratings for all traits. Ratings were high and gardeners enjoyed the tastes of both. ‘Burpee’s Golden’ roots were described as “sweet and earthy;” ‘Touchstone Gold’ roots were “sweet,” “rich” and “mellow.”

Variety	Pref (%)	Rec (%)	Rating
Burpee’s Golden	53	79	8.16
Touchstone Gold	47	79	7.95

(23 sites)



Beet, Red

Gardeners were impressed with the vigor and yield of ‘Eagle’. ‘Merlin’ has performed well in our trials for many years, excelling in eating qualities. Most gardeners felt the eating qualities of ‘Eagle’ and ‘Merlin’ were similar.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Eagle	59	89	8.00
Merlin	41	84	7.42

(25 sites)



Beet, Red (Organic)

Gardeners liked both varieties. Gardeners who preferred ‘Sweet Dakota Bliss’ noted the appealing color and sweet taste of its roots. ‘Early Wonder Tall Top’ grew vigorously and was ready to harvest earlier.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Early Wonder T.T.	50	83	7.71
Swt. Dakota Bliss	50	92	7.79

(30 sites)



Carrot, Chantenay (Organic)

‘Cupar’ excelled in all categories. It germinated better and its yields were higher. ‘Cupar’ roots were larger, more attractive and better tasting. ‘Red-Cored Chantenay’ was healthy, but could not match the yield and root qualities of ‘Cupar’.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Cupar	69	77	7.15
R.-C. Chantenay	31	46	5.85

(16 sites)



Carrot, Imperator

Both varieties struggled to germinate in our dry soils. Some gardeners noted ‘Candysnax’ roots were more uniform, better tasting and less likely to fork. Some gardeners noted ‘Imperator 58’ had larger roots.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Candysnax	53	76	6.82
Imperator 58	47	65	6.82

(32 sites)



Carrot, Early Nantes

‘Goldfinger’ was preferred by most gardeners. It germinated better and had healthier plants. Several gardeners thought ‘Goldfinger’ roots were sweeter. Several gardeners noted ‘Ingot’ roots were more uniform and less likely to fork.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Goldfinger	63	79	7.37
Ingot	37	63	7.00

(27 sites)



Carrot, Early Nantes (Organic)

‘Naval’ produced a higher yield at more sites. ‘Naval’ roots were longer. More gardeners thought ‘Naval’ roots looked more attractive and tasted better. The gardeners who preferred ‘Yaya’ often praised its sweetness and flavor.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Naval	62	84	7.71
Yaya	38	71	7.32

(41 sites)



Carrot, Heavy Nantes (Organic)

‘Bangor’ and ‘Negovia’ were easy to grow and their plants were healthy. Most gardeners preferred ‘Negovia’. They liked its long, straight roots. ‘Negovia’ produced higher yields at more sites and had a superior taste to more gardeners.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Bangor	43	75	6.92
Negovia	57	88	7.38

(29 sites)



Corn, Early

'Sweetness' is an outstanding early sweet corn. It ripened quicker and had higher yields at more sites. Its ears were more attractive and tasted sweeter to more gardeners. 'Cuppa Joe' grew vigorously but did not excel in any traits.

Variety	Pref (%)	Rec (%)	Rating
Cuppa Joe	32	47	6.68
Sweetness	68	68	7.68
			(22 sites)



Corn, Super Sweet

Most gardeners preferred 'Anthem XR', often due to its sweetness. It produced an earlier and higher yield at more sites. 'Signature' performed consistently well across sites but did not excel in any trait.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Anthem XR	65	65	7.25
Signature	35	65	6.95
			(21 sites)



Corn, Super Sweet (Organic)

'Enchanted' was superior in all traits. It germinated much better and produced higher yields. More gardeners preferred the look and taste of 'Enchanted' ears. 'Natural Sweet' rated low in all traits, and most gardeners did not recommend it.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Enchanted	69	69	7.00
Natural Sweet	31	31	5.15
			(13 sites)



Cucumber, Burpless

Both varieties produced lots of delicious cucumbers. 'Summer Dance' cucumbers were dark green, smooth-skinned and more attractive. 'Summer Dance' produced earlier. 'Tasty Green' produced more cucumbers at more sites.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Summer Dance	60	87	8.11
Tasty Green	40	76	7.76
			(53 sites)



Cucumber, Pickling (Organic)

Both varieties produced lots of quality cucumbers for pickling. 'Calypso' produced earlier and had higher yields. It rated slightly higher for plant health and fruit quality traits. Gardeners liked 'Cool Customer' but it did not stand out.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Calypso	63	78	7.63
Cool Customer	37	78	7.52
			(36 sites)



Cucumber, Slicing

Gardeners liked the long, smooth cucumbers of 'Raceway'. 'Talladega' produced earlier at more sites. The vines of both varieties were healthy, but several gardeners noted their yields suffered due to the dry weather.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Raceway	56	74	7.42
Talladega	44	63	7.11
			(22 sites)



Cucumber, Snack

Neither variety was productive. Gardeners liked the looks of 'Green Finger' cucumbers: long, straight and thin with small seeds. 'Muncher' vines were more productive at more sites. More gardeners preferred the taste of 'Muncher'.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Green Finger	50	60	6.37
Muncher	50	57	6.83
			(40 sites)



Kale, Siberian (Organic)

Gardeners liked both varieties and were split on their preferences. 'Red Russian' grew more vigorously and was ready to harvest earlier. The taste qualities of the varieties were similar.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Red Russian	50	75	8.00
Red Ursa	50	75	7.88
			(10 sites)



Kale, Tuscan (Organic)

‘Dazzling Blue’ outperformed ‘Lacinato’ in all traits. It germinated and grew better. It produced a higher yield, looked prettier, and tasted better to more gardeners. ‘Lacinato’ was good, but ‘Dazzling Blue’ was brilliant.

Variety	Pref (%)	Rec (%)	Rating
Dazzling Blue	56	78	7.33
Lacinato	44	44	6.78

(14 sites)



Lettuce, Green Batavian (Organic)

Gardeners liked both varieties and thought they were delicious. ‘Muir’ germinated better, grew faster, resisted bolting better, and produced higher yields. ‘Muir’ received very high ratings and was recommended by nearly everyone.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Anuenue	21	65	7.26
Muir	79	95	9.16

(21 sites)



Lettuce, Red Butterhead

Both varieties were fantastic, producing high yields of crisp, flavorful lettuce. Most gardeners preferred ‘Alkindus’. They raved over the beauty of its leaves and its resistance to bolting. ‘Cervanek’ performed well again this summer.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Alkindus	67	81	8.25
Cervanek	33	69	7.88

(22 sites)



Lettuce, Red Eazyleaf (Organic)

‘Brentwood’ and ‘Burgandy’ were remarkably similar for yield, taste and most other traits. Neither variety generated much enthusiasm. More gardeners recommended ‘Brentwood’. They liked the darker red color of its leaves.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Brentwood	53	76	7.53
Burgandy	47	59	7.18

(20 sites)



Lettuce, Green Romaine (Organic)

‘Newham’ germinated much better, grew better, and produced higher yields. ‘Dragoon’ germinated poorly. The few plants of ‘Dragoon’ that did germinate almost matched ‘Newham’ plants for resistance to bolting, looks and taste.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Dragoon	11	19	4.05
Newham	89	86	7.85

(24 sites)



Melon, Cantaloupe

Neither variety performed very well in our shorter-than-normal growing season. ‘Athena’ rated slightly higher for vine health while ‘Burpee’s Hybrid’ rated slightly higher for fruit quality. Yields and days to maturity were similar.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Athena	50	50	6.43
Burpee’s Hybrid	50	57	5.86

(16 sites)



Melon, Galia

‘Arava’ received higher ratings and everyone recommended it. ‘Arava’ ripened earlier and produced higher yields. Most gardeners recommended ‘Courier’. Several gardeners were surprised of the sweetness and flavor of Galia melons.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Arava	75	100	8.63
Courier	25	63	7.13

(12 sites)



Melon, Honeydew

Most gardeners preferred ‘Earli-Dew’, the standard honeydew for the north, this year. ‘Earli-Dew’ ripened earlier and produced more melons in our short growing season. Yields and ratings for both varieties were not impressive.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Earli-Dew	63	73	6.73
Honeycomb	37	73	6.18

(16 sites)



Pea, Shell (Organic)

‘Green Arrow’ produced higher yields and had larger pods, but was more likely to suffer from disease. ‘PLS 595’ produced the first peas. Its vines had more tendrils than leaves, generating mixed reactions from harvesters.

Variety	Pref (%)	Rec (%)	Rating
Green Arrow	57	68	7.50
PLS 595	43	54	6.78
			(43 sites)



Pea, Snap

‘Sugar Ann’ proved again it is the best snap pea for ND. Gardeners were impressed with its earliness, healthy vines, high yields and delicious taste. ‘Sugar Sprint’ grew well in previous trials but grew poorly under dry conditions this year.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Sugar Ann	86	89	8.25
Sugar Sprint	14	24	5.33
			(51 sites)



Pea, Snow

‘Mammoth Melting’ was preferred by most gardeners. Its vines were more vigorous and productive at more sites. Gardeners enjoyed the taste but not the color of ‘Golden Sweet’ pods. ‘Golden Sweet’ ripened first.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Golden Sweet	25	38	5.75
Mamm. Melting	75	63	6.88
			(10 sites)



Pumpkin, Midsize (Organic)

Both varieties produced attractive jack-o’-lanterns in our short growing season. Most gardeners preferred ‘Bellatrix’. Its pumpkins were generally larger and its vines showed greater resistance to powdery mildew. Yields were similar.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Bellatrix	61	74	7.89
E. Dak. Howden	39	79	7.42
			(24 sites)



Pumpkin, Large

‘Early King’ has performed well in previous trials, but this year it was overshadowed by ‘Large Marge’. ‘Large Marge’ germinated better, had healthier vines, produced higher yields and grew bigger pumpkins.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Early King	25	50	7.25
Large Marge	75	83	8.75
			(12 sites)



Pumpkin, Giant White

‘Polar Bear’ fruits were big, round, pure white, and more attractive. ‘Polar Bear’ produced higher yields at most sites. Gardener liked the giant fruits of ‘New Moon’, which appeared in shades of ivory, blue and peach.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
New Moon	33	67	7.00
Polar Bear	67	73	7.00
			(17 sites)



Radish, Bicolor

‘Red Head’ grew faster and produced higher yields. Its roots were more attractive and tasted better. ‘Sparkler’ struggled in this spring sowing. It often failed to produce a globular root, went to seed quickly, and had a harsh, sharp taste.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Red Head	78	100	7.22
Sparkler	22	22	3.22
			(14 sites)



Radish, Red (Organic)

‘Sora’ produced higher, more consistent yields. Its roots were more uniform, more attractive, less susceptible to cracking, and had great taste. ‘Cherry Belle’ grew well this spring, but ‘Sora’ showed its tolerance to heat and grew much better.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Cherry Belle	23	69	7.38
Sora	77	100	8.46
			(14 sites)



Spinach, Semi-Savoy Leaf

‘Escalade’ plants were generally healthier and resisted bolting better in this spring sowing. ‘Escalade’ received higher ratings for taste. ‘Avon’ germinated well and was ready to harvest earlier at more sites. Most gardeners did not recommend it.

Variety	Pref (%)	Rec (%)	Rating
Avon	27	42	6.00
Escalade	73	92	7.17
			(17 sites)



Spinach, Smooth Leaf

‘Lizard’ was impressive. Its leaves were very dark green and flavorful. The plants were healthy and resisted bolting. ‘Space’ has been a strong and reliable performer in our trials for many years. It produced high yields again this spring.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Lizard	47	85	8.00
Space	53	75	7.65
			(23 sites)



Squash, Dark Zucchini (Organic)

‘Desert’ and ‘Dunja’ received similar ratings for nearly all traits, including yield and fruit quality. Both varieties were productive. Gardeners liked both varieties and were evenly split on which variety they preferred.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Desert	50	75	7.83
Dunja	50	83	8.25
			(14 sites)



Squash, Green Zucchini

Both varieties produced lots of attractive, delicious fruits. ‘Green Machine’ vines were robust and healthier. ‘Green Machine’ produced the first fruits but total yields were similar. There was no strong preference for taste qualities.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Cashflow	27	82	6.91
Green Machine	73	91	8.73
			(14 sites)



Squash, Summer Yellow

Both varieties had healthy plants that produced lots of fruits. ‘Multipik’ produced earlier at most sites. ‘Slick Pik YS 26’ fruits were consistently smooth and slender. Gardeners enjoyed the taste of both varieties, not showing a preference.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Multipik	64	83	7.50
Slick Pik YS 26	36	75	7.91
			(12 sites)



Squash, Winter Acorn

‘Autumn Delight’ rated higher for all traits. It was healthier and produced much higher yields. Most gardeners liked ‘Sweet REBA’, but it was inferior in all respects. The vines of both varieties were healthy and produced tasty fruits.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Autumn Delight	60	93	8.47
Sweet REBA	40	67	7.87
			(18 sites)



Squash, Winter Delicata (Organic)

‘Zeppelin’ germinated better, grew vigorously, and produced higher yields. It ripened earlier at more sites. Gardeners who preferred ‘Honey Boat’ often mentioned its great taste. Vines of both varieties were aggressive.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Honey Boat	42	60	6.06
Zeppelin	58	81	7.25
			(74 sites)



Squash, Winter Baby Butternut

Both varieties were easy to grow. ‘Butterscotch’ produced higher yields at more sites. Gardeners liked the smaller size of ‘Butter Baby’ fruits. Gardeners enjoyed the taste of both varieties, not showing a clear preference.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Butter Baby	45	67	6.83
Butterscotch	55	83	7.42
			(21 sites)



Squash, Winter Butternut

‘Early Butternut’ ripened earlier at more sites. Its fruits were easier to peel, had smaller seed cavities, and tastier flesh. ‘Autumn Frost’ fruits were beautiful and seemed better suited for decorating than eating.

Variety	Pref (%)	Rec (%)	Rating
Autumn Frost	33	67	6.93
Early Butternut	67	73	7.47
			(19 sites)



Swiss Chard, Multicolor (Organic)

Both varieties were colorful and delicious. ‘Improved Rainbow’ plants were bigger and less prone to bolting. ‘Five Color Silverbeet’ germinated better, was ready to harvest earlier, and looked more attractive to more gardeners.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
F. C. Silverbeet	33	94	7.88
Improv. Rainbow	67	100	8.31
			(17 sites)



Watermelon, Red (Organic)

‘Sweet Dakota Rose’ vines were healthier and more productive. Its melons ripened earlier. The flesh of its melons was crisp, sweet and delicious. Some gardeners mentioned ‘Crimson Sweet’ had a more uniform fruit shape.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Crimson Sweet	40	63	6.71
Swt. Dakota Rose	60	84	8.10
			(31 sites)



Watermelon, Red Icebox

The new variety ‘Cherry Grande’ performed poorly for all traits. The old classic ‘Sugar Baby’ grew better, matured earlier, produced higher yields and tasted better. Neither variety received high ratings or sweeping recommendations.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Cherry Grande	9	25	4.08
Sugar Baby	91	58	6.42
			(17 sites)



Watermelon, Yellow (Organic)

‘Early Moonbeam’ and ‘Petite Yellow’ received good ratings for watermelon varieties. ‘Petite Yellow’ had a thin rind, few seeds and ripened earlier. It was a more reliable producer. Yields and fruit quality ratings for the varieties were similar.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Early Moonbeam	60	67	6.83
Petite Yellow	40	67	8.33
			(10 sites)



Basil (Organic)

Both varieties were healthy and grew well. ‘Prospera’ rated higher for all traits. Its leaves were deep green and glossy with the classic Genovese flavor. ‘Rutgers Devotion’ was recommended by most, but was not especially remarkable.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Prospera	75	86	8.11
Rutgers Devotion	25	72	7.29
			(37 sites)



Cilantro (Organic)

‘Leisure’ and ‘Santo’ received high scores and were rated similarly for all traits. Some gardeners had difficulties finding any differences between the varieties. ‘Santo’ was preferred but for no consistent reason. Comments lacked enthusiasm.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Leisure	20	88	8.11
Santo	80	100	8.56
			(12 sites)



Dill, Dwarf Leafy (Organic)

‘Ella’ and ‘Greensleeves’ received similar ratings. Both varieties grew well and withstood the brisk winds of North Dakota. ‘Greensleeves’ was preferred by most gardeners. It germinated better and grew more vigorously at more sites.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Ella	30	74	6.78
Greensleeves	70	78	7.30
			(27 sites)



Balsam

Many gardeners had never heard of balsam. They loved the flowers and so did the bees. Both varieties grew well and were beautiful additions to gardens. ‘Camellia Flower Mix’ grew vigorously and produced more blooms at more sites.

Variety	Pref (%)	Rec (%)	Rating
Bush Mix	42	88	7.65
Camellia Flower	58	88	7.96
			(34 sites)



Cosmos, Red

‘Rubenza’ germinated better, grew taller, bloomed earlier and produced more blooms. ‘Sonata Red Shades’ had a more compact, fuller plant. Both ‘Rubenza’ and the ‘Sonata’ series of cosmos have always done well in our trials.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Rubenza	50	60	6.90
Sonata Red S.	50	70	6.80
			(15 sites)



Cosmos, Striped

‘Picotee’ germinated better, grew more vigorously and was healthier. Its plants were taller, had more blooms, and were beautiful. ‘Velouette’ had compact plants that bloomed early, but the plants generally lacked health and vigor.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Picotee	83	76	7.13
Velouette	17	44	4.96
			(27 sites)



Sunflower, Bicolor

Gardeners liked both ‘Ruby Eclipse’ and ‘Strawberry Blonde’. Both varieties were easy to grow. ‘Ruby Eclipse’ bloomed earlier at more sites. More gardeners felt ‘Ruby Eclipse’ was prettier in their gardens.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Ruby Eclipse	56	82	8.06
Strawb. Blonde	44	76	7.88
			(25 sites)



Sunflower, Lemon

‘Buttercream’ always excels in our trials. Every gardener who grew ‘Buttercream’ this year recommended it. It excelled in all traits and received very high scores. Lemon yellow is not a popular sunflower color; ‘Buttercream’ remains unknown.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Buttercream	100	100	9.00
Lemon Queen	0	60	6.60
			(9 sites)



Sunflower, Orange

‘Gold Rush’ excelled over ‘Soraya’ in all categories. It germinated better and was healthier. It bloomed much earlier, more abundantly, and was prettier in gardens. Every gardener preferred ‘Gold Rush’ over ‘Soraya’.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Gold Rush	100	80	8.20
Soraya	0	60	4.80
			(8 sites)



Sunflower, Peach

Gardeners were enchanted by the soft peach color and small size of ‘Peach ‘Passion’ blooms. ‘Apricot Beauty’ stalks were taller and healthier. ‘Apricot Beauty’ was preferred over ‘Peach Passion’ in our 2014 trials for its superior vigor.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Apricot Daisy	20	80	7.20
Peach Passion	80	80	7.40
			(9 sites)



Sunflower, Red

‘Moulin Rouge’ germinated better and was healthier than ‘Red Sun’. ‘Moulin Rouge’ bloomed earlier and more abundantly. Its burgundy flowers were stunning. ‘Moulin Rouge’ has been an impressive variety in our trials for years.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Moulin Rouge	70	74	6.96
Red Sun	30	52	5.87
			(26 sites)



Zinnia, Cactus Mix

Gardeners loved both varieties. Their flowers were bright and beautiful with sturdy stems for cutting. Most gardeners preferred ‘Cactus Bright Jewel’. It had big, vibrant blooms. ‘Burpeeanna Giants’ produced more blooms at more sites.

Variety	Pref (%)	Rec (%)	Rating
Burpee. Giants	41	88	8.29
C. Bright Jewel	59	85	8.53
			(35 sites)



Zinnia, Dahlia Mix

‘California Giants and ‘State Fair’ received high scores for their large, beautiful blooms. Both varieties were healthy, loved by pollinators, and good for cutting. Several gardeners noted ‘State Fair’ flowers were more vibrant in color.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
California Giants	40	91	8.23
State Fair	60	88	8.43
			(34 sites)



Zinnia, Scarlet Dahlia

Both varieties grew well and were beautiful. Most gardeners recommended both varieties, but they preferred ‘Scarlet Flame’. ‘Scarlet Flame’ bloomed earlier and had more blooms. Its blooms were big, bright, and long lasting.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Scarlet Flame	60	93	8.53
Will Rogers	40	80	7.47
			(20 sites)



Zinnia, Mexican

Most gardeners were surprised and pleased with Mexican zinnias. Both varieties had low, spreading habits and bloomed profusely. Gardeners liked the rich colors of ‘Old Mexico’. ‘Persian’ Carpet’ had more colors and often bloomed earlier.

Variety	Pref	Rec	Rating
Old Mexico	58	85	7.85
Persian Carpet	42	69	7.08
			(26 sites)

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For more information on the North Dakota Home Garden Variety Trials Program, go to <https://www.ag.ndsu.edu/homegardenvarietytrials/>

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