



AGM

Trial of Onions, red, globe 2005



AGM

Entries receiving The Award of Garden Merit (H3)

'Red Baron' AGM (H3) 2005. Sent by and available from Thompson & Morgan Ltd. Also offered by Samuel Dobie & Son, Johnsons Seeds, E W King & Co Ltd, W Robinson & Son Ltd and Elsom Seeds Ltd.


From seed - high yield of attractive, dark skinned, globe-shaped bulbs with good internal colour. It was noted that plants grown from seed produced a higher yield and bolder bulbs than those grown from sets.

Bulbs 8.5cm in diameter, 7cm depth. Average weight per bulb 154g.

'Red Spark' F₁ AGM (H3) 2005. Sent by Elsoms Seeds Ltd.

Attractive globe-shaped, uniform, medium sized bulbs with tight, dark skins and good internal colour.

Bulbs 8cm in diameter, 6.5cm depth. Average weight per bulb 72g.

The following entries have been recommended for the AGM  , but cannot receive the award until they are available to the public in retail catalogues. It is the responsibility of the sender to inform the Trials Office at Wisley that all queries have been resolved.

SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY:

'Granata' AGM (H3) 2005 Sent by Pro-Veg Seeds Ltd

High yield of top-shaped bulbs, uniform in size, with tight, deep red skins and a good internal colour.

Bulbs 8cm in diameter, 8cm depth. Average weight per bulb 149g.

'Rossana' AGM (H3) 2005. Sent by Steve Howe Seeds.

High yield of uniform, top-shaped bulbs with good dark colour and firm skins.

Bulbs 9cm in diameter, 7cm depth. Average weight per bulb 153g.

'Vernina di Firenze' sent as and a synonym of **'Rossa di Firenze' AGM (H3) 2005.** Sent by Bakker Brothers.


High yield of flattened, top-shaped solid bulbs, with deep coloured, tight skins and good internal colour.

Bulbs 8.5cm in diameter, 6.5cm depth. Average weight per bulb was 101g.

H3 = plants hardy outside in some regions or in particular situations or which, whilst usually grown outside in summer, need frost-free protection in winter.

Trial Notes

Entries: There were 19 entries in the trial, submitted by various seed companies in the UK and Europe.

Objectives: The objectives of the trial were to compare and assess a range of red, globe-shaped onion cultivars, grown from seed and from sets and to recommend the Award of Garden Merit [AGM]  to outstanding cultivars for garden use whilst demonstrating the cultivation of such a crop.

Cultivation: The site was sterilized using Basamid, spaded in autumn 2004 then farmyard manure was incorporated. No additional fertiliser was applied at this time. In spring the ground was cultivated by hand and raked prior to the seed being sown direct on 16 March, at 3cm intervals. On 7 April, plants were thinned to 6cm apart in rows. Sets arrived later because they had to be heat-treated, these were planted at 6cm intervals on 7 April.

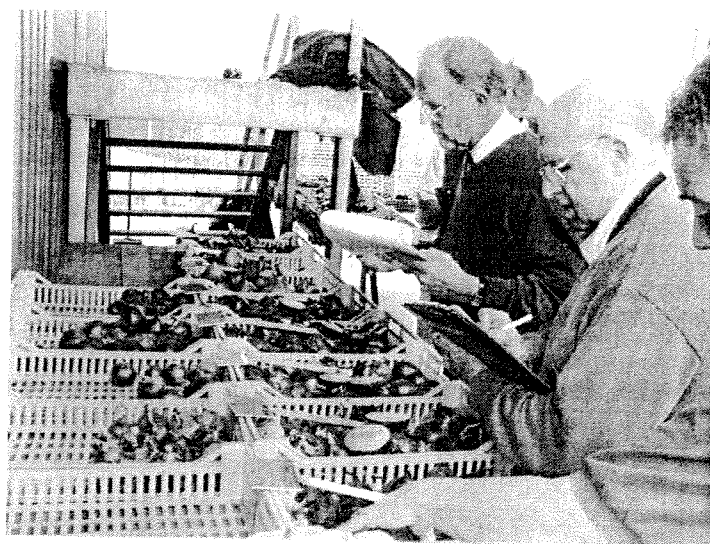
Three rows [approx 3.6 m long] of each entry were grown, with 30cm between rows.

Findings: Not all cultivars grew well; four of them produced less than 40 bulbs. The trial was not watered or sprayed. Very few of the entries bolted, even among the sets that were planted in April. The bulbs were loosened in the first week of September, lifted on 12 September and spread out in a glasshouse to dry. There had not been sufficient sunny days since lifting to ripen the bulbs and as a result some entries did not have as glossy skins as they might have attained in a sunnier month. Members noted that the yield and size of bulbs of 'Red Baron' grown from sets were not as good as the crop grown from seed. However growers who live in the north of the country and garden on heavy soil have difficulty in growing onions from seed, so find sets a better alternative. The Committee would recommend waiting for the heat-treated sets to become available and to plant in April, as untreated sets planted in February have a tendency to bolt.

Judging: The trial was assessed by the Vegetable Trials Sub-committee at intervals throughout the growing season and judged for the Award of Garden Merit [AGM] 🏆 on 27 September.

The Sub-committee considered the following criteria:

quality : colour : shape : thickness of skin : uniformity



Judging Red Onion Crop – Trials Department

Award	Name	Sender
AGM (H3) 2005	'Red Spark' F ₁	Elsoms Seeds
AGM (H3) 2005	'Rossa di Firenze' syn. 'Vernina di Firenze'	Bakker Brothers
AGM (H3) 2005	'Red Baron'	Thompson & Morgan
AGM (H3) 2005 STA	'Rossana'	Steve Howe
AGM (H3) 2005 STA	'Granata'	Pro-Veg
	'Braunschweiper Dunkelblusrote'	N L Chrestensen
	'Brunswick' F ₁	Suttons
	'Campillo' F ₁	Mr Fothergill's

AGM (H3)2004*	'Lilia'	Pro-Veg
	'Mammoth Red'	W Robinson & Son
	'Padana'	Pro-Veg
	'Red Pearl' F ₁	Nickerson Zwaan
	'Romy'	Pro-Veg
	'Rossa Vernina'	Bakker Brothers
	'Tropeana Tonda' PRIMAROSSA	Steve Howe
	'Washington Late Red'	Western Hybrid
	Grown from Sets	
	'Hyred' F ₁	Thompson & Morgan
	'Red Baron'	Thompson & Morgan
	'Red Delicious'	Samuel Dobie & Son

* AGM(H3)2004 as a salad onion

Addresses of senders.

Bakker Brothers, PO Box 7, 1723 ZG Noord-Scharwoude, The Netherlands.

Samuel Dobie & Son, Long Road, Paignton, Devon TQ4 7SX.

Elsoms Seeds Ltd, Pinchbeck Road, Spalding, Lincolnshire PE11 1QG.

Mr Fothergill's Seeds Ltd, Gazeley Road, Kentford, Newmarket, Suffolk CB8 7QB.

N L Chrestensen, Erfurter Samen-und Pelanzenzucht Gmbh, Zentrale Postanschrift: Postfach 854, 99008 Erfurt, Germany.

Nickerson-Zwaan Ltd., Joseph Nickerson Research Centre, Rothwell, Market Rasen, Lincolnshire LN7 6DT.

Pro-Veg Seeds Ltd, 6 Shingay Lane, Sawston, Cambridge CB2 4SS.

Steve Howe Seeds, Fresh Fields, Long Hedges, Fishtoft, Boston, Lincolnshire PE22 0RH.

Suttons Consumer Products Ltd, Woodview Road, Paignton, Devon TQ4 7NG.

Thompson & Morgan Ltd, Poplar Lane, Ipswich, Suffolk IP8 3BU.

W Robinson & Son (Seeds & Plants) Ltd, Sunny Bank, Forton, Nr Preston, PR3 0BN.

Western Hybrid Seeds Inc, P O Box 1169, Hamilton City, CA 95951, USA.