

# **TRIALS REPORT**

**2010**

## **Carrots**

**Early and suitable for containers**

Trials Office  
The Royal Horticultural Society Garden, Wisley, Woking, Surrey, GU23 6QB



**AGM**

# **Trial of Carrots, Early and suitable for containers**

**2010**



**AGM**

## **Entries receiving The Award of Garden Merit (H3)**

The Panel recommended the Society's **AWARD OF GARDEN MERIT** to

### **'Adelaide' AGM (H3) June 2009 reconfirming AGM (H3) 1999 as early, suitable for containers .**

[Trial No 1]. Sent by and available from Thompson & Morgan Ltd.

*Good weight, early to mature. Stump rooted, very smooth, good deep orange colour with low core to flesh ratio of 1:4. Sweetly flavoured. Typical length 10cm, width 2.2 cm.*

**Available in three retail catalogues.**



### **'Mokum' AGM (H3) June 2010 reconfirming AGM (H3) 1993 as early, suitable for containers.**

[Trial No 12]. Sent by and available from Thompson & Morgan Ltd.

*Early to mature, good weight and sweet flavour. Low core to flesh ratio of 1:3. Smooth skin, deep orange, lightly tapering. Typical length 13cm, width 2.5 cm.*

**Available in two retail catalogues**

### **'Napoli' AGM (H3) June 2010 reconfirming AGM (H3) 1993 as early, suitable for containers.**

[Trial No 16]. Sent and available from Edwin Tucker.

*Slightly tapering, good weight. Smooth skin, core and flesh deep orange. Ratio of core to flesh 1:3. Typical length 13cm, width 2.8 cm.*

**Available in three retail catalogues.**





**'Parano' AGM (H3) June 2010, reconfirming AGM (H3) 1993, as early, suitable for containers.**

[Trial No 18]. Sent by and available from Dobies of Devon.

*Smooth, slightly tapering blunt roots with good deep orange flesh and core colour. Core to flesh ratio of 1:3. Typical length 14cm, width 2.8 cm.*

**Available in three retail catalogues.**

**'Parmex' AGM (H3) June 2010, reconfirming AGM (H3) 1993 as early, suitable for containers.**

[Trial No 20]. Sent by and available from Thompson & Morgan Ltd.

*Very early to mature and particularly suitable for successional sowing. Round-rooted, 'Paris Market' type, with good deep orange colour and good flavour. Core to flesh ratio 1:3. Typical length 4.5cm, width 3.5cm.*

**Widely available.**



**'Primo' AGM (H3) June 2010 reconfirming AGM (H3) 2006 as early, suitable for containers.**

[Trial No 22]. Sent by and available from Edwin Tucker & Sons Ltd.

*Flavoursome crop of good weight. Domed top, smooth skin, deep orange colour with low core: flesh ratio of 1:4. Typical length 12cm, width 2.5cm.*

**Available in four retail catalogues.**

**'Trevor' AGM (H3) June 2010 reconfirming AGM (H3) 2006 as early, suitable for containers.**

[Trial No 27]. Sent and available from Mr Fothergill's Seeds.

*Even, smooth crop of stump-ended roots, with good weight. Good deep orange colour and good flavour. Slight greening at shoulders. Typical length 11.5cm, width 2.5cm.*

**Widely available.**





**'Yukon' AGM (H3) June 2010 reconfirming AGM (H3) 1999 as early, suitable for containers.**

[Trial No 29]. Sent and available from Unwins Seeds.

*Early to mature, good weight of tapering, blunt-ended roots. Smooth skin, deep orange, good flesh and core colour, with a core to flesh ratio of 1:3. Sweetly flavoured. Typical length 10cm, width 2.2 cm.*

**Available in two retail catalogues.**

**'Marion' AGM (H3) June 2010.**

[Trial No 9]. Sent by and available from S E Marshall & Co.

*Early to mature. Uniform crop of slightly tapered roots with good weight. Smooth skin, deep orange flesh and good core colour. Core to flesh ratio 1:2. Typical length 10cm, width 2.1cm.*

**Available in one retail catalogue.**



The following entries have been recommended for the AGM  but cannot receive the award until 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**



**'Baladis' (Nantes 1085) AGM (H3) June 2010.**

[Trial No 13]. Sent by Bakker Brothers.

*Early maturity. Even crop of slightly tapered 'Nantes' type root. Deep orange, sweet flavour. Core to flesh ratio 1:3. Smooth skin, little greening. Typical length 10.5cm, width 2.5cm.*

**Not yet available in retail catalogues.**

**'Balancio' (Nantes 1087) AGM (H3) June 2010.**

[Trial No 14]. Sent by Bakker Brothers.

*Good weight, even crop. Slightly tapering roots with good flavour. Smooth skin, deep orange flesh, almost coreless. Typical length 12cm, width 2.5cm.*

**Not yet available in retail catalogues.**



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.

**Sources of seed for these cultivars vary from year to year. Please see the Royal Horticultural Society's leaflet *Award of Garden Merit* 🏆 *Vegetables* for current stockists.**

This leaflet is available on the web at [http://www.rhs.org.uk/plants/award\\_plants.asp](http://www.rhs.org.uk/plants/award_plants.asp)

A copy can also be obtained by sending an A4 sized, self addressed envelope with two first class stamps to: 'AGM List', Botany Department, Royal Horticultural Society Garden, Wisley, Woking, Surrey GU23 6QB

## Trial Notes

### Objectives:

The objectives of the trial were to assess the earliness of a range of early carrot cultivars suitable for containers, grown under fleece; to recommend the Award of Garden Merit [AGM] 🏆 to outstanding cultivars for garden use and to demonstrate the cultivation of this crop. The trial was complimented by a mini-trial carried out by over 200 schools within the RHS Campaign for School Gardening.

### Entries:

There were 29 entries in the Trial submitted by various seed companies in the UK and Europe.

### Cultivation:

The carrots were sown both on the Portsmouth Field, and also into containers which were in the Model Vegetable Garden. On the Portsmouth Field the seeds were sown directly into a slight trench (no more than 5cm deep). Two 3.6m rows for each entry were planted out and spaced 40cm apart. The seeds were sown on 2<sup>nd</sup> March Covered with fleece to protect from frosts and carrot fly. It was decided to keep the fleece in place until cropping.

In the Model Vegetable Garden a representative 5 cultivars were chosen to be grown in containers. The containers were 80cm in diameter and were filled with light compost into which the seed were sown directly. The containers were set into the ground and covered with fleece.

Once the seedlings had germinated, they were thinned on 7<sup>th</sup> April so that they were spaced 2.5cm / 1" apart.

The carrots were harvested on 14<sup>th</sup> June.

### Findings:

It was found that the Carrots had grown less well this year than in the comparable 2006 trial, even though they had been sown and harvested at about the same time of year. The differences in yield could be due to a number of reasons, including a prolonged period of cold during spring 2010.

The original intention had been to sow the seed direct in February, but the soil and weather conditions had not been suitable, so sowing was delayed until 2 March. After sowing the trial



bed was immediately covered with horticultural fleece to aid germination and to protect the crop from carrot fly. The crop was thinned on 7 April, apart from which the fleece remained in situ throughout the trial until cropping on 14 June. The Vegetable Trials Assessment Panel initially met on 11 May when the fleece was lifted sufficiently to assess the stage of development. It was noted that the cold spring had significantly delayed growth, and a final assessment meeting was set for mid June.

Below are a list of comparisons of sizes from the 2006 trial and the 2010 trial;

Cultivar	2006 measurements		2010 measurements	
	Length	Width	Length	Width
'Adelaide'	16cm	3.5cm	10cm	2.2cm
'Parano'	19cm	4cm	14cm	2.8cm
'Parmex'	4cm	5cm	4.5cm	3.5cm
'Trevor'	17cm	4.5cm	11.5cm	2.5cm
'Yukon'	17.5cm	3.5cm	10cm	2.2cm

### Judging:

The trial was assessed for the Award of Garden Merit (AGM)  by the Vegetable Trials Assessment Panel on 14 June using the following criteria:

**earliness : maturity : taste : colour : ratio of core to flesh : absence of green shoulders : top growth : lack of bolting: lack of splitting**

For assessment the trials staff had lifted, rinsed and laid out ten to twelve roots of each entry from the middle row, with one root cut open length-wise.

### List of entries:

No	Name	AGM	Sender
		AGM (H3) 1999	
1	'Adelaide'	AGM (H3) 2010	Thompson & Morgan Ltd
2	'Amsterdam 2 – Solo'		Mr Fothergill's Seeds Ltd
3	'Amsterdam 2 - Amice'		Bakker Brothers
	'Amsterdam Forcing -		
4	Amfine'		E W King & Co Ltd
5	'Chantenay'		Pro-Veg Seeds Ltd
6	'Flyaway'	AGM (H3) 1999	A L Tozer Ltd
7	'Karnavit'		John Bertinat Seeds Ltd
8	'Kuttinger'		Pro-Veg Seeds Ltd
9	'Marion'	AGM (H3) 2010	S E Marshall
10	'Mignon'		Thompson & Morgan Ltd
11	'Mini Finger'		Thompson & Morgan Ltd
		AGM (H3) 1993	
12	'Mokum'	AGM (H3) 2010	Thompson & Morgan Ltd
		AGM (H3) 2010	
13	'Baladis' (Nantes 1085)	STA	Bakker Brothers

No	Name	AGM	Sender
		AGM (H3) 2010	
14	'Balancio' (Nantes 1087)	STA	Bakker Brothers
15	'Nantes 2 Castle'		Bakker Brothers
		AGM (H3) 1993	Edwin Tucker & Sons Ltd
16	'Napoli'	AGM (H3) 2010	
17	'Oxheart 862'		Pro-Veg Seeds Ltd
		AGM (H3) 1993	Samuel Dobie & Son
18	'Parano'	AGM (H3) 2010	
19	'Paris Market 5 – Atlas'		Johnsons Seeds
		AGM (H3) 1993	
20	'Parmex'	AGM (H3) 2010	Thompson & Morgan Ltd
21	'Primecut'		D T Brown & Co
		AGM (H3) 2006	
22	'Primo'	AGM (H3) 2010	Edwin Tucker & Sons Ltd
23	Resistafly		A L Tozer Ltd
24	'Rocket'		S E Marshall
25	'Stupická'		Pro-Veg Seeds Ltd
26	'Sugarsnax 54'	AGM (H3) 2005	Thompson & Morgan Ltd
		AGM (H3) 2006	
27	'Trevor'	AGM (H3) 2010	Mr Fothergill's Seeds Ltd
28	'TZ 9304'		A L Tozer Ltd
		AGM (H3) 1999	Unwins Seeds Ltd
29	'Yukon'	AGM (H3) 2010	

**STA** = subject to availability

### Names and Addresses of Senders

A L Tozer Ltd, Pyports, Downside Bridge Road, Cobham, Surrey KT11 3EH

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

D T Brown & Co, Bury Road, Kentford, Newmarket, Suffolk CB8 7PQ

John Bertinat Seeds Ltd, Bankfield House, 39 Bure Way, Aylsham, Norwich, NR11 6HL

Johnsons Seeds, Gazeley Road, Kentford, Newmarket, Suffolk CB8 7QB

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

Pro-Veg Seeds Ltd, 6 Shingay Lane, Sawston, Cambridge, CN2 4SS

S E Marshall, Regal Road, Wisbech PE 13 2RF

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

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

Unwins Seeds Ltd, Elm House Nurseries, Alconbury Hill, Huntingdon, Cambs, PE28 4HY

Edwin Tucker & Sons Ltd, Brewery Meadow, Stonepark, Ashburton, Newton Abbot, TQ13 7DG

Elsom Seeds, Pinchbeck Road, Spalding, PE11 1QG

Source: Trials Office, The Royal Horticultural Society Garden, Wisley, Woking, Surrey GU23 6QB

e-mail: [trials@rhs.org.uk](mailto:trials@rhs.org.uk).

More information about RHS Trials and other colour illustrated reports can be found on the RHS Website : <http://www.rhs.org.uk/plants/awards2006.asp>

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