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Dwarf Peppers: Evaluation of ‘Triton’

Over the past year, we have evaluated 16 pepper cultivars in a greenhouse study in an attempt to find dwarf, high yielding, good tasting peppers. All cultivars were selected because they were reported to be dwarf and early maturing. All were above 50-cm tall except ‘Marbles’. This was still 40-cm tall, and produced tiny fruit that were full of seed.

In November, 2001 through a connection with Mary Musgrave at University of Massachusetts, the sweet pepper ‘Triton’ was identified. ‘Triton’ is only 20-cm tall, flowers in 25 days, and produces large (~5 to 8 cm long) fruit. We are now characterizing the yield and environmental response of ‘Triton’. Additionally, seed will be collected from mature fruit and will be included in our dwarf seed outreach program run primarily though our web page. We are attempting to find the genetic origin of ‘Triton’.
'Triton' fruit turn bright red when mature. In this photo, the peppers are about 80 days old. Each plant produces about 6 to 8 fruit.