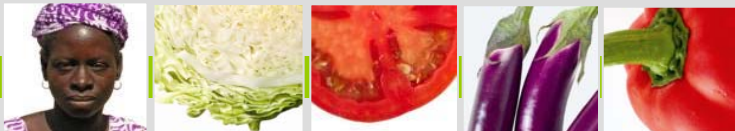


# Principles of vegetable breeding & seed production

Narinder Dhillon

Supannika Sanguansil



# Vegetable?

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An edible part (as root, tuber, stem, leaves inflorescence, fruit or seed) that is used as human food and usually eaten cooked or raw during the principle part of a meal rather than as a dessert – contrasted with fruit

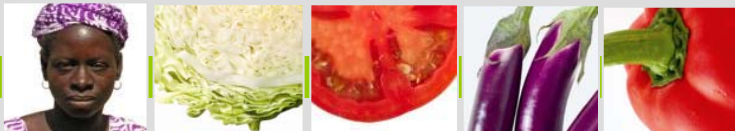
## Watermelon is also a vegetable?



It is planted from seeds/seedlings, harvested, and then cleared from the field like other vegetables. Since watermelon is grown as a vegetable crop using vegetable production systems, watermelon is considered a vegetable

## ► Plant breeding vs Vegetable breeding

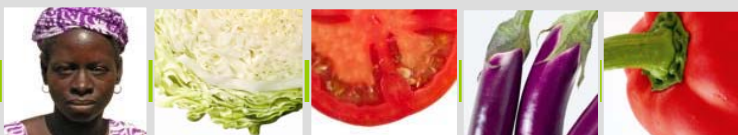
Plant breeding is the art,  
science and business of  
improving plants for human  
benefit





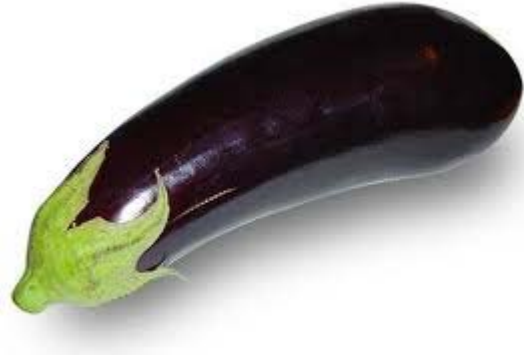
## ► How vegetable breeding differ from crop breeding?

- Wide choice of different species
- Range of traits
- Local preferences
- Increasing breeding capacity with private-sector seed companies



## ► Consumer preference





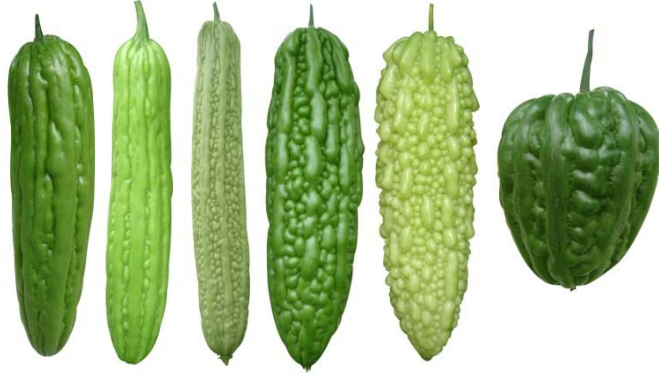
## Cucumber market types







**Thailand type**



**Chinese type**



**Taiwan type**



**Okinawa type**



**Vietnam type**



**Bitter melon  
market types**



**Philippines type**



**South Asian type**



## ► Pumpkin market types



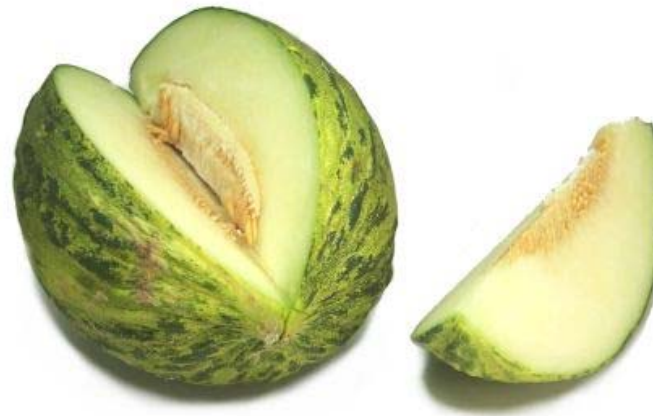
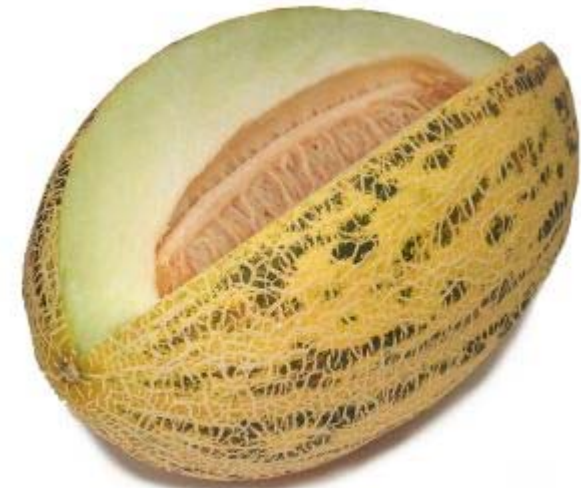




Pumpkins in  
S. Korea



# Melon market types





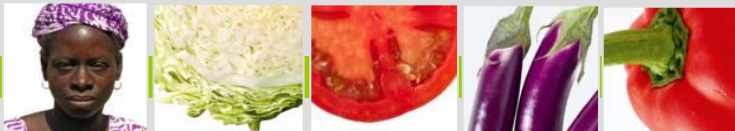
## ► When is a breeding program needed?

A breeding program is needed if current varieties are not producing up to the capacity of the environment

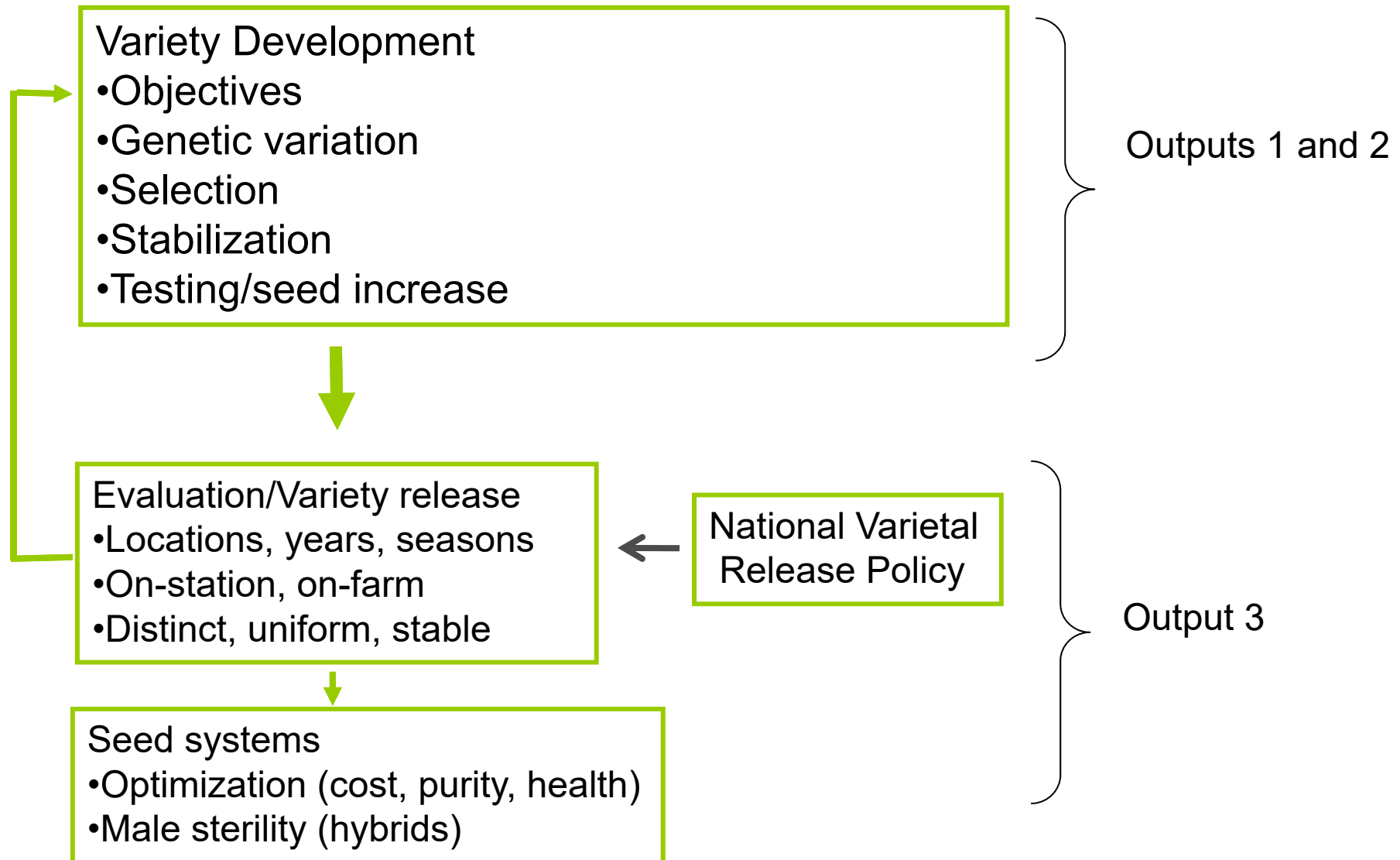


# ► Types of cultivars

- Pure line
- F<sub>1</sub> hybrids
- Open pollinated
- Clones



# Relation of Breeding Outputs



## ► Methods of vegetable breeding

Introduction

Line breeding

Population breeding

Hybrid breeding

Clone breeding

Note: Mode of reproduction is the deciding factor to develop suitable breeding and selection methods.



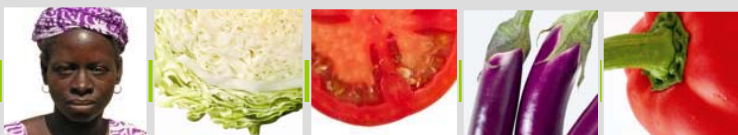
## ► Phenotype vs. Genotype

$$P = G + E + (G \times E)$$

**P** is called the **phenotypic value**, i.e., the measurement associated with a particular individual

**G** is **genotypic value**, the effect of the **genotype** (averaged across all environments)

**E** is the effect of the **environment** (averaged across all genotypes)



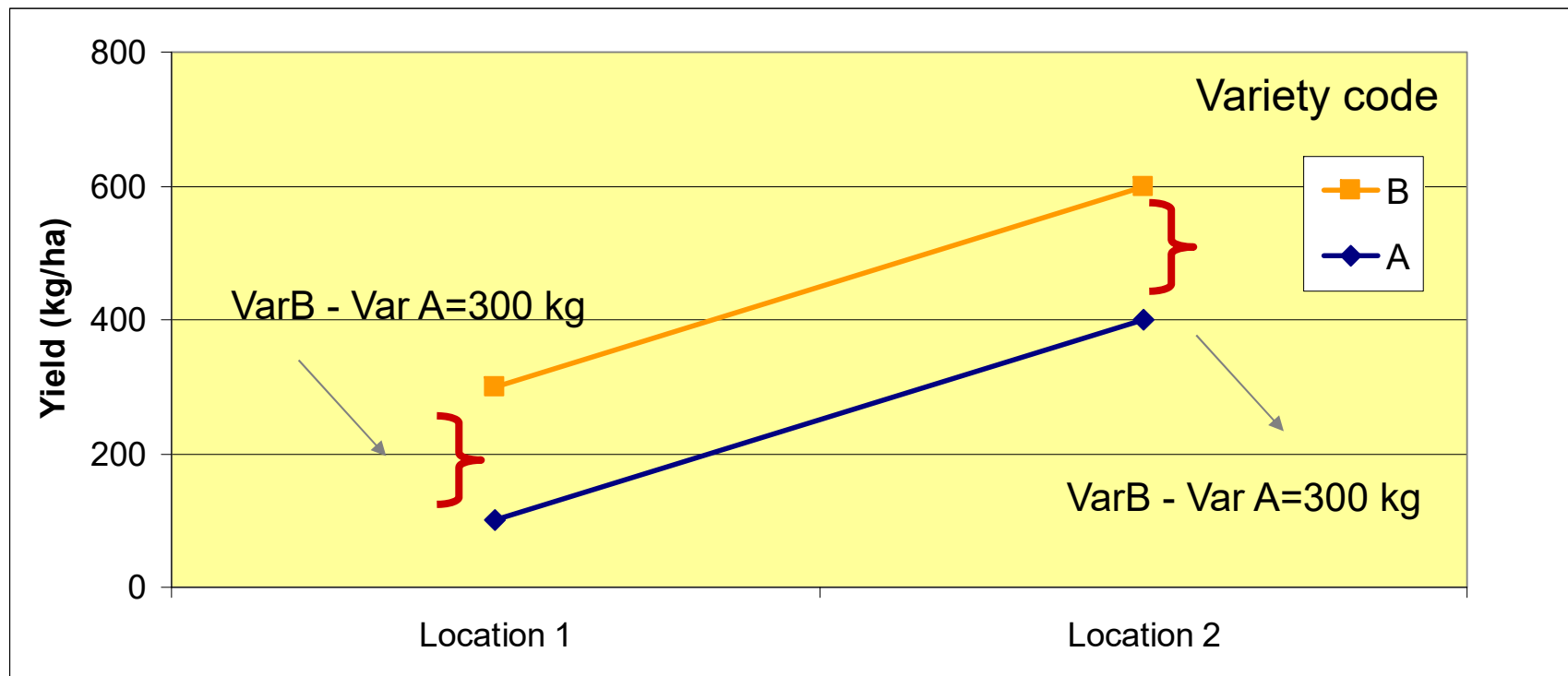
## ► G x E ?

When different genotypes exhibit differential responses to different sets of environmental conditions, a genotype x environment (G x E) interaction is said to occur



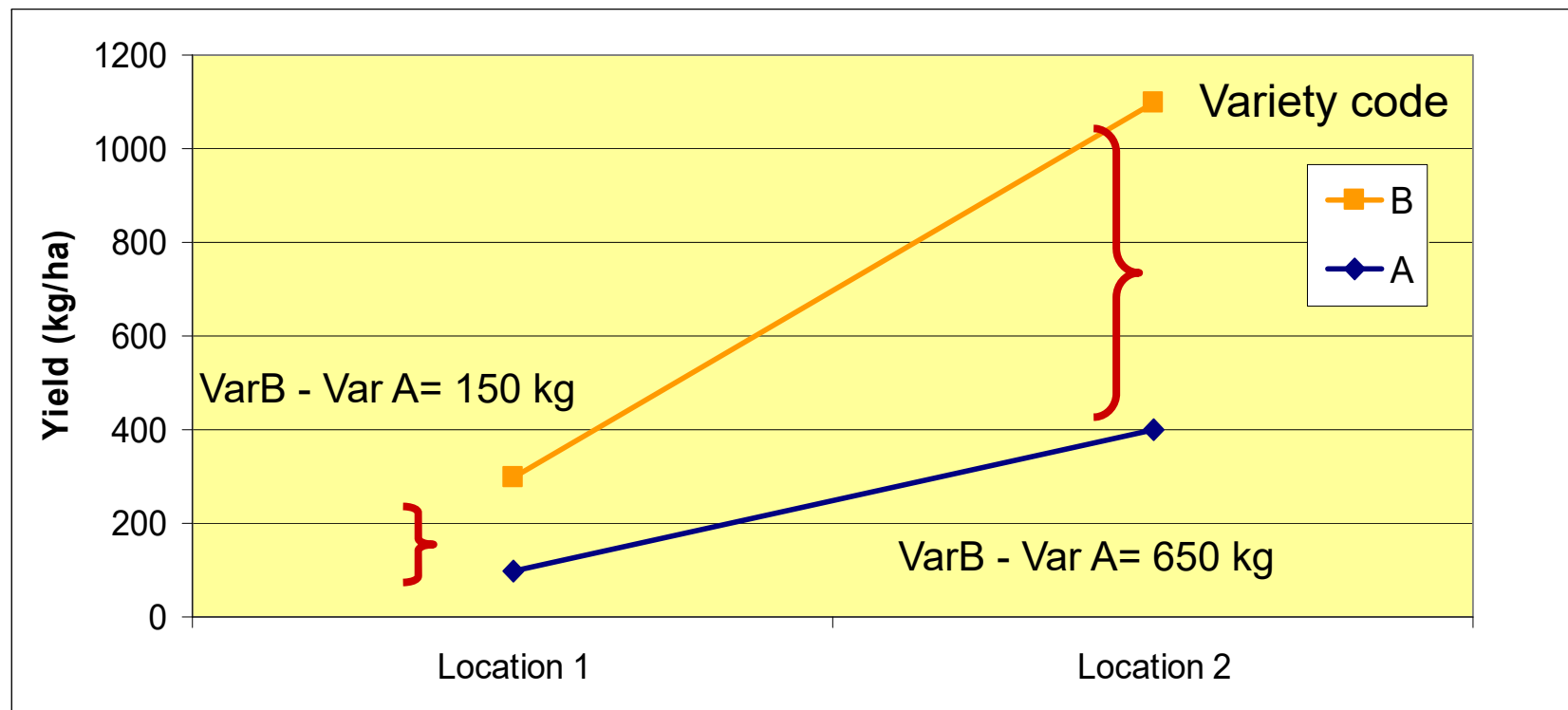
# No Genotype-Environment Interaction

- Variety ranking is same between locations 1 and 2
- Size of the difference between varieties is the same at both locations



# GxE Interaction Present: Case 1

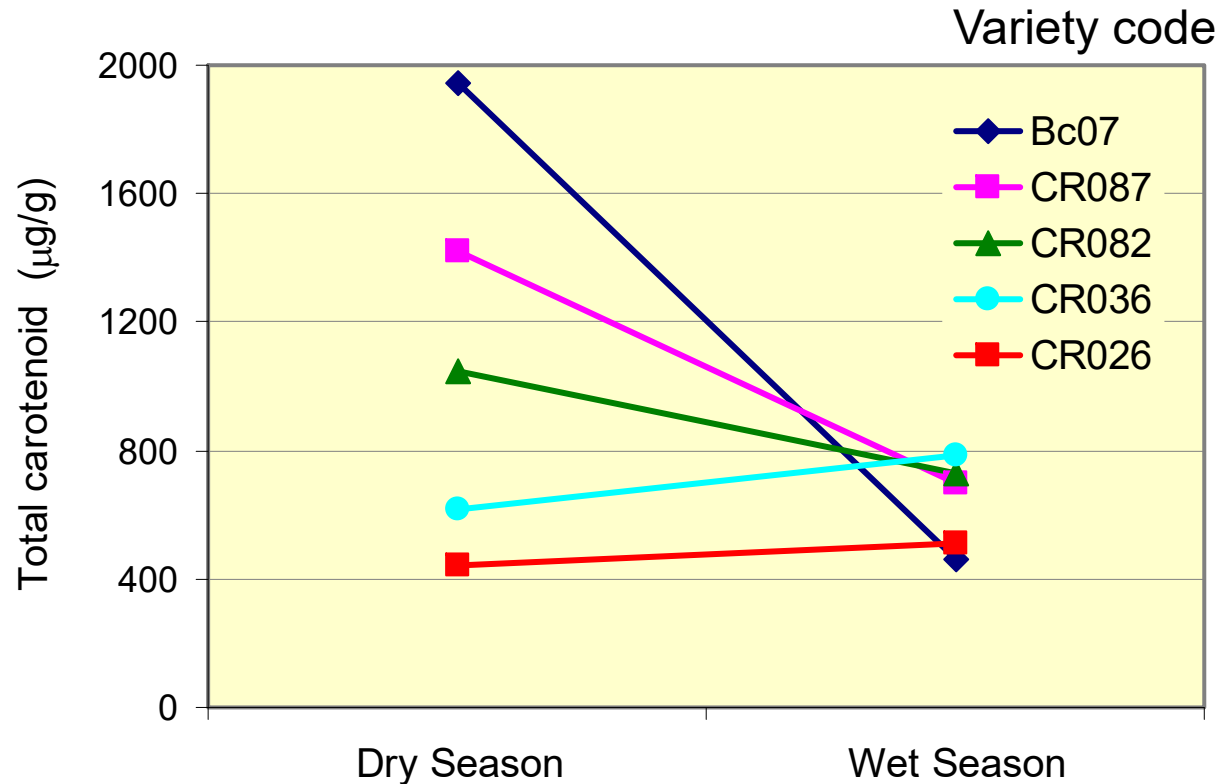
- Variety ranking is same between locations 1 and 2
- Yield difference between varieties varies greatly between locations





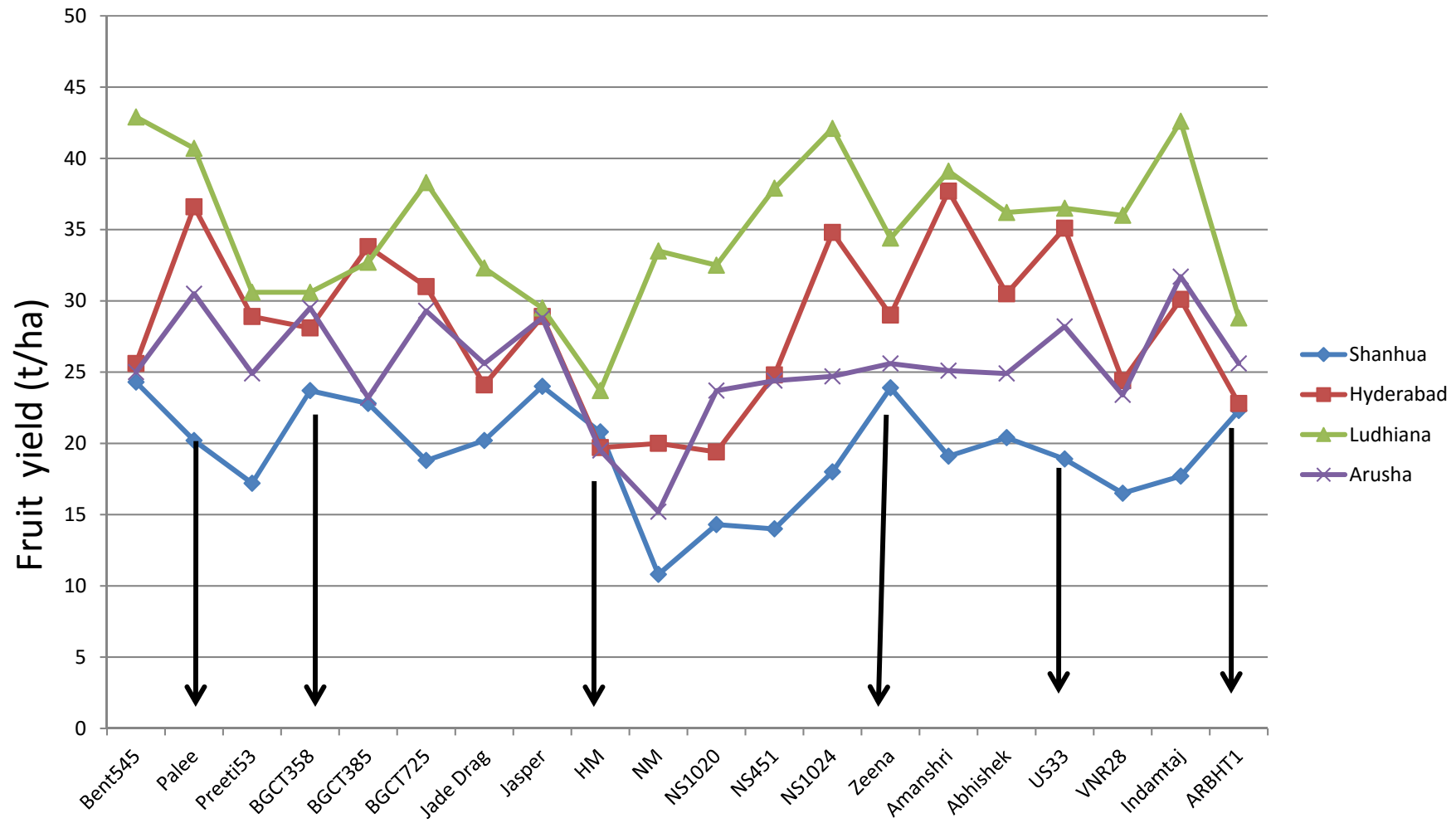
# GXE Interaction Case 2:

- Total Carotenoid Contents of choysum (*Brassica rapa* cvg. *parachinensis*) in dry and wet seasons



- Variety rank changes between seasons
  - Changes in the magnitude of variety differences between seasons

# Bitter gourd: Multi-location trial

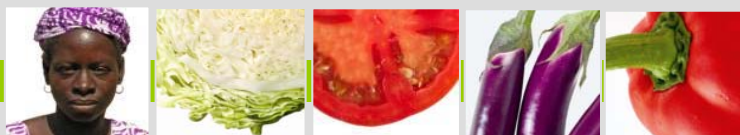


# ANOVA

Variation	Degree of freedom	Mean square	Computed F
Year (Y)	$y - 1$	MS 1	MS 1/MS 2
Rep/year	$y (r - 1)$	MS 2	
Genotypes (G)	$g - 1$	MS 3	MS 3/MS 4
Y x G	$(y - 1)(g - 1)$	MS 4	MS 4/EMS
Pooled error	$y (r - 1)(g - 1)$	EMS	
Total	$yrg - 1$		

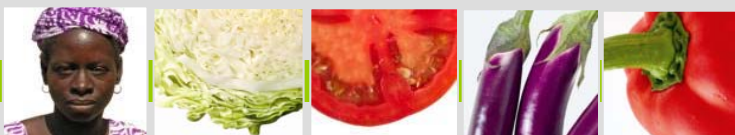
## ► Conclusion for the breeder

A cultivar that is responsive to the environment may be released for a narrowly defined area of adaptation, whereas another that has a low  $G \times E$  interaction may be suitable for release for use over a wider region of production



## ► Planning Variety Trials

- “ Too little time and effort is put into the planning of experiments.”
- Cochran and Cox, 1957



# Varieties

- Varieties differ in yield potential, adaptation, disease/pest resistance, quality, nutrient content
- From many potential varieties we want to identify those varieties that consistently demonstrate outstanding performance and broad adaptation for traits of interest over a wide range of environments
- Environments can mean different locations, years, seasons

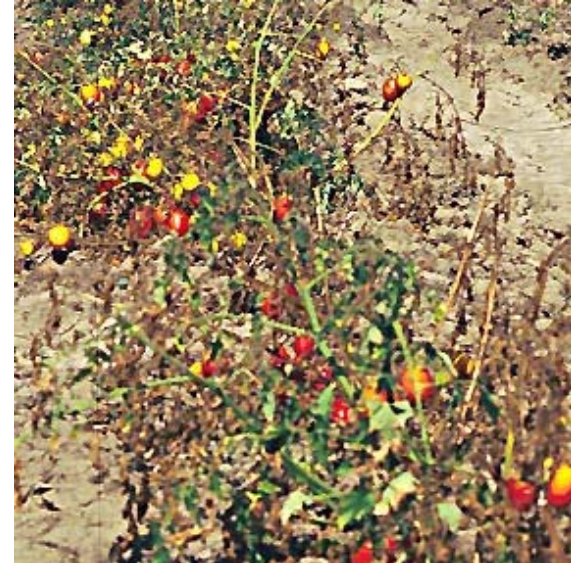




## No Variety is the Best Everywhere



Variety A-Location 1

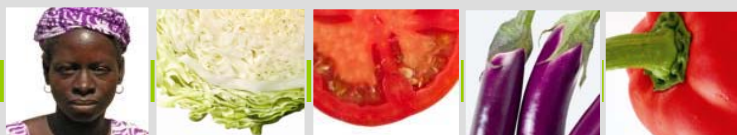


Variety A- Location 2

- Variety performance affected by temperatures, rainfall patterns, soil types, dominant diseases and insects, crop management in different environments

## ► Objective of Variety Trials

- Methodical and unbiased comparison of varieties versus farmer-preferred varieties (checks) in target environments
- Proper choice of experimental design, checks, protocols is critical
- Basis for science-based recommendations





# Define Target Environment

- Agroecology
  - Humid lowland tropics, Semi-arid tropics, Cool highlands
  - Red versus black soil
- Open field versus protected cultivation
- Season: dry, wet, 'regular' versus 'off-season'

Protected cultivation



Open-field, low input



## ► Define Target Farmer Group

- Market gardeners, commercial growers, processors
- Access to labor and credit, willingness/ability to buy inputs (fertilizer, pesticides, irrigation, seed), access to markets





## Trial Sites

- Trial sites should be representative of the target environment (major soil types, altitudes, seasons, temperatures)
- Plan trial sowing and transplanting dates appropriately for target season

Protected cultivation

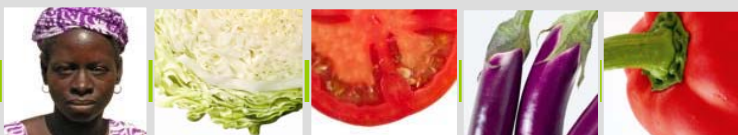


Open field



## ► Conducting the Trial

- Choose trial sites representative of the target environment
- A uniform field is preferred for the trial - soil fertility, soil texture, water-holding capacity, slope
- If field is not uniform, identify sources of variation and choose an experimental design that can help reduce “noise” from the variation
- Use the simplest possible statistical design with replication and randomization
- Consult with statistician BEFORE the experiment about plot sizes, arrangement of blocking, sample sizes



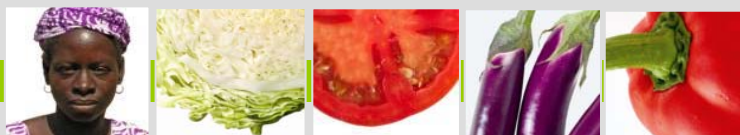
# Crop Management

- Rule of thumb is to use practices of local progressive farmers
  - Fertilizer types, amounts, timing of application
  - Irrigated or rain-fed
  - Trellising
  - Disease, insect control methods



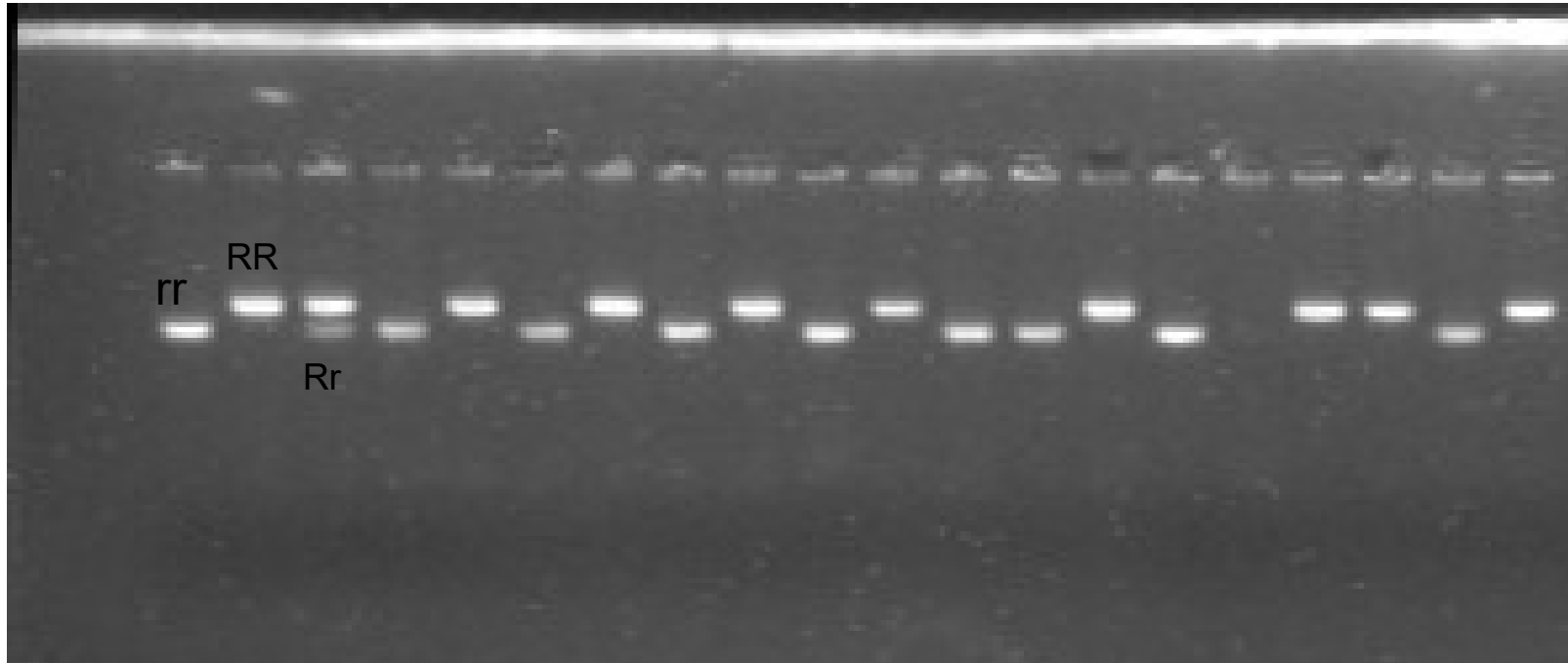
## ► Major issues of vegetable breeding

1. Productivity
2. Shelf life
3. Quality traits
4. Disease and pest resistance
5. Wide adaptations
6. Tolerance to abiotic stresses



# Molecular marker

## *genotype* visualization



By migrating DNA in an electric field, we can now 'see' genotypes



## ► Molecular breeding – classical example



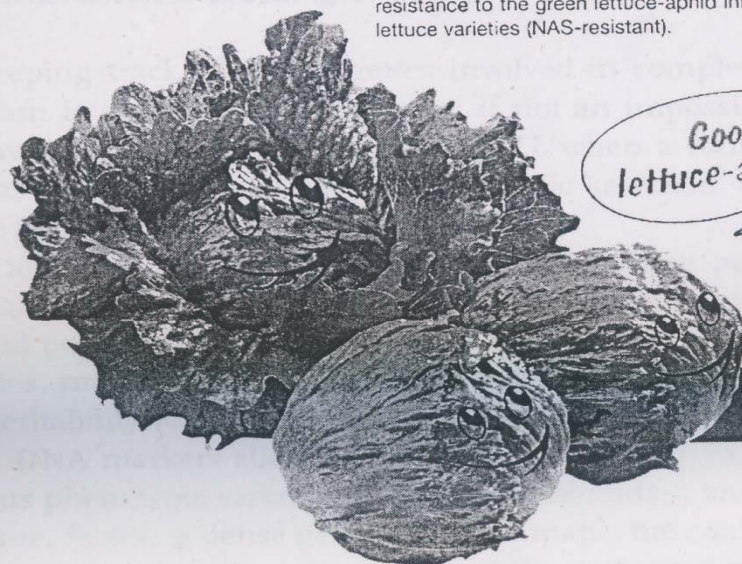


**RZ-Info**

# **THE FIRST NASANOVIA APHID-FREE ICEBERG LETTUCE!**

This is good news, not just for true vegetarians but for all consumers, as the annoying aphid problem in iceberg lettuce has been solved once and for all.

RIJK ZWAAN is the first seed breeding company in the world to have succeeded in crossbreeding resistance to the green lettuce-aphid into iceberg lettuce varieties (NAS-resistant).



Goodbye,  
lettuce-aphid!

**WORLD-FIRST**

## **ICEBERG LETTUCE FORTUNAS RZ**

# Principles of vegetable seed production

## Seed?

Reasons for the deterioration of variety

1. Developmental variations
2. Mechanical mixtures
3. Mutations
4. Natural crossing
5. Minor genetic variation
6. Selective influence of diseases
7. Technique of the breeder

# ► Maintenance of genetic purity of seed

1. Control of seed source
  - i. Breeder's seed
  - ii. Foundation seed
  - iii. Registered seed
  - iv. Certified seed
2. Crop rotation
3. Isolation
  - i. Isolation by time
  - ii. Isolation by distance



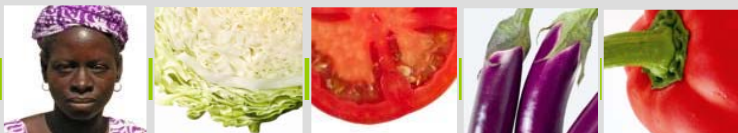
## ► Maintenance of genetic purity – contd.

### 3. Roguing of seed crop

- i. Vegetative stage
- ii. Flowering stage
- iii. Maturity stage

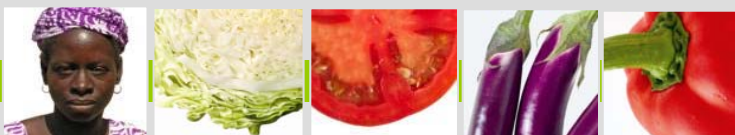
### 4. Seed certification

### 5. Grow-out tests



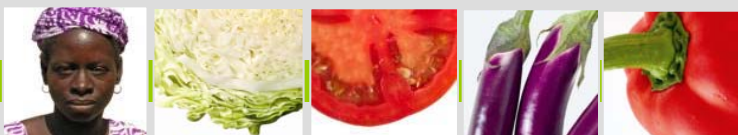
► Minimum isolation distance requirements for vegetable seed crop

Vegetable	Isolation distance (m)		Vegetable	Isolation distance (m)	
	BS/FS	CS		BS/FS	CS
French bean	10	5	Peppers	400	200
Cow pea	10	5	Okra	400	200
Garden pea	10	5	Brinjal	200	100
Lettuce	50	25	Tomato	50	25
Cole crops, Chinese cabbage	1600	1000	Spinach	1600	1000
Carrot	1000	800	Potato	5	5
Radish/Turnip	1600	1000	Garlic	5	5
Onion	1000	500			
Cucurbits	1000	500			



## ► Agronomic principles for seed production

1. Selection of suitable areas for seed production
2. Selection of variety
3. Source of seed
4. Seed treatment
5. Better agronomic management
6. Supplementary pollination
7. Harvesting, drying & storage



# Labels for various seed classes



Breeder Seed



Foundation Seed

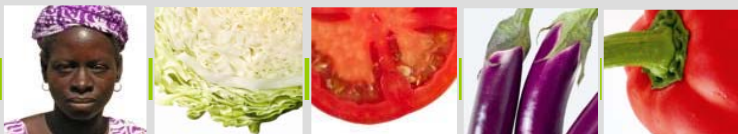


Certified Seed

## ► AVRDC's genebank

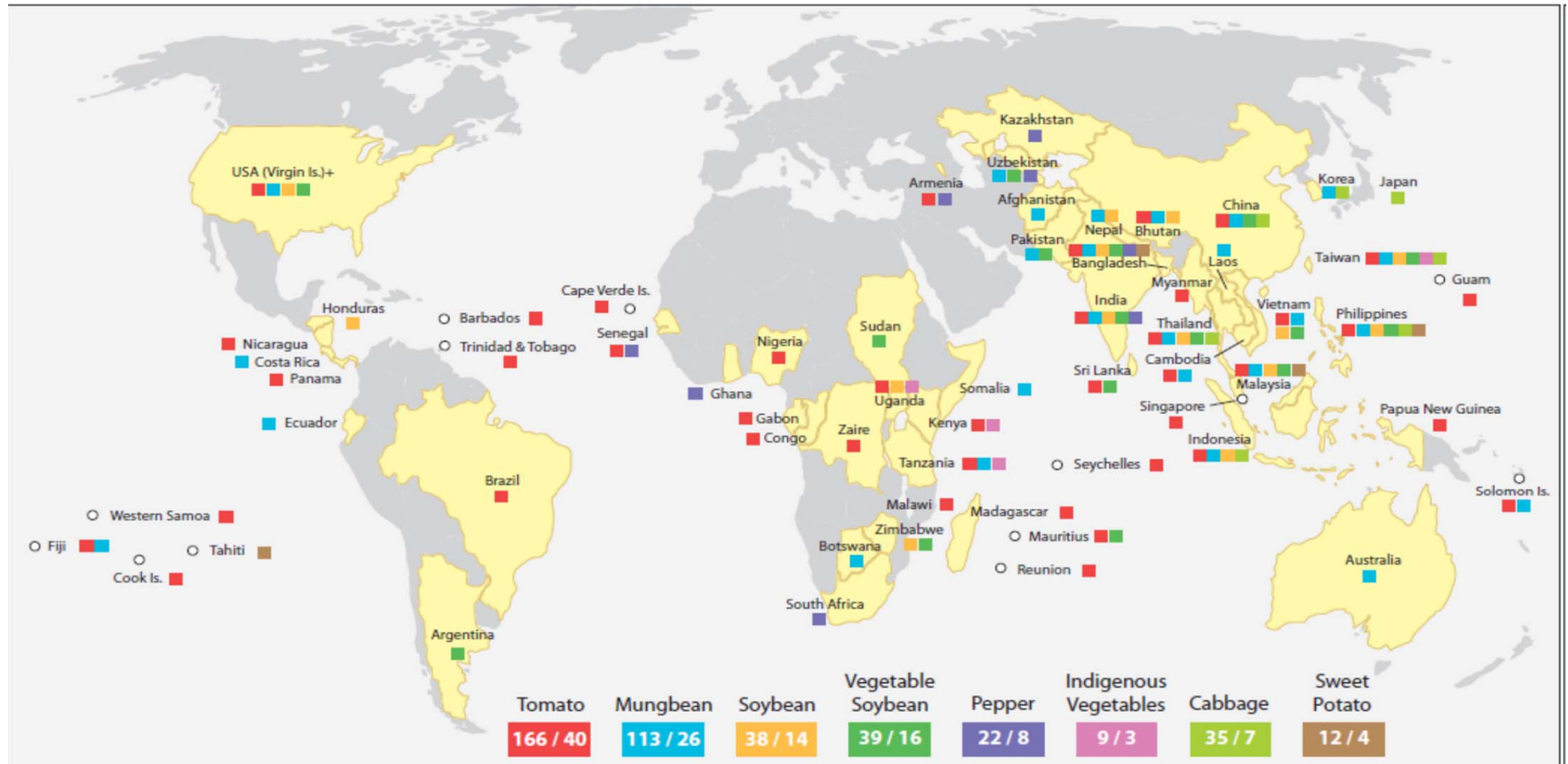
61,494 accessions from

- 439 species
- 172 genera
- 155 countries

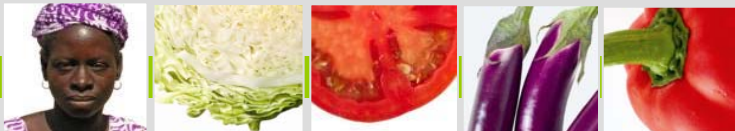




## Cultivars released since 1978



434 improved vegetable varieties  
benefit farmers around the world



## Current fresh market tomato releases of AVRDC



AVTO9601



AVTO9601



AVTO9803



AVTO1001



AVTO1002



AVTO1130



► Current high beta carotene tomato lines of AVRDC



AVTO1017



AVTO1016



AVTO1015



AVTO1020



AVTO1019



AVTO0102





## Current hot pepper releases of AVRDC



AVPP9905



AVPP0506



AVPP9813



AVPP0105



AVPP0206



AVPP0514



## ► Current sweet pepper releases of AVRDC



AVPP0504



AVPP0402



AVPP9807



AVPP0408



AVPP0701



## ► Soybean releases of AVRDC



AVSB0301



VI060637



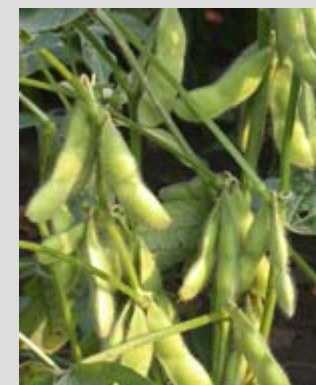
VI060636



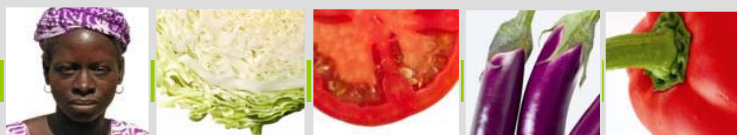
AVSB0805



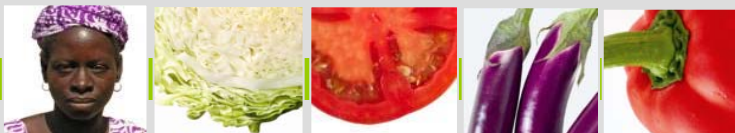
AVSB0803



AVSB0304









# ► Cucurbit breeding activities at ESEA Thailand



Thailand



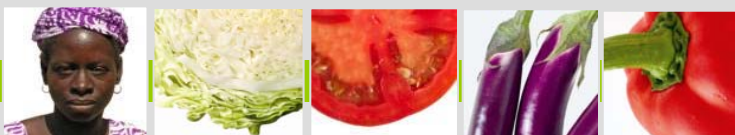
AVRDC  
The World Vegetable Center



## World annual production of cucurbits

Vegetable	World production per annum (million)	
	Tonnes	Hectares
Watermelon	105.37	3.472
Cucumbers, Gherkins	65.13	2.109
Melon, cantaloupe	31.92	1.339
Pumpkins, squash, gourds	24.61	1.778
<b>Total cucurbits</b>	<b>227.03</b>	<b>8.698</b>
Tomatoes	161.79	4.803
Chilies, peppers, green	31.17	1.914

Source: FAOSTAT 2012



Cucumber PYT			Fruit					Disease reaction	
Genotype	Sex	Bitterness	Type	Length (cm)	Width (cm)	No/plant	M. Yield (t/ha)	PM	DM
12TWFC2	G	0	BISG	11.4 <sup>bcd</sup>	3.7	8.9 <sup>bc</sup>	29.1 <sup>b-e</sup>	0	4
12TWFC3	G/P	0	BISG	11.3 <sup>bcd</sup>	3.9	7.1 <sup>bcd</sup>	22.4 <sup>de</sup>	0	5
12TWFC7	P	0	BISW	12.1 <sup>abc</sup>	4.4	11.4 <sup>b</sup>	38.6 <sup>a-d</sup>	0	3
12TWFC32	G	0	BISL	9.2 <sup>d</sup>	3.5	11.2 <sup>bc</sup>	33.2 <sup>a-e</sup>	3	3.5
12TWFC33	G	0	BISL	9.1 <sup>d</sup>	3.7	12.8 <sup>b</sup>	37.3 <sup>a-d</sup>	3	2.5

G: 100%, G/P: 85%, P: 60-80%, M: <20%



12TWFC2



12TWFC3



12TWFC7



12TWFC32



12TWFC33

# Japanese type cucumber





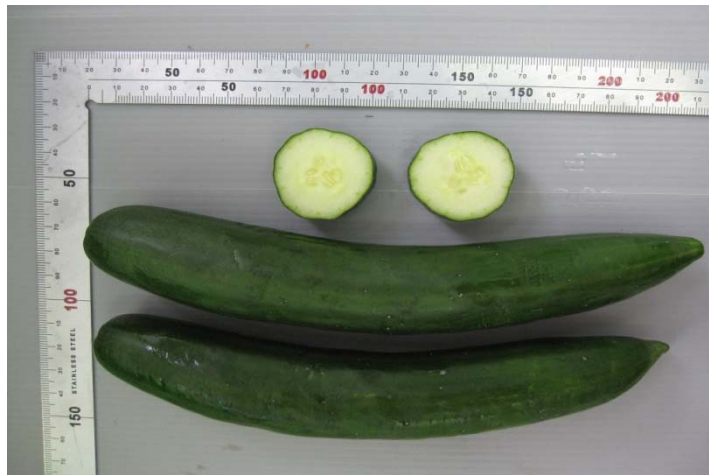
# Elite lines of *C. sativus*



**13TWFC11**



**13TWFC15**



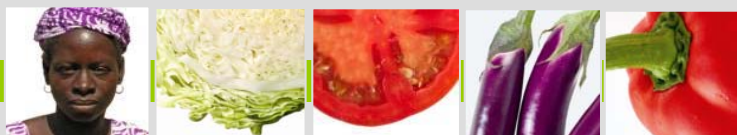
**13TWFC13**



**13TWFC17**

## ► Preliminary yield trial of cucumber Japanese type

Variety	Sex	Days to 1 <sup>st</sup> pistillate flowering	Node number of 1 <sup>st</sup> pistillate flowering	Fruit Length (cm)	Fruit Width (mm)	Fruit Weight (g)	Fruit No./ plant	Yield (t/ha)	Gummy stem blight
13TWFC15	P	40	6	19.9 c	35.4	151 a	16.0	54.5 a	MS
13TWFC13	P	42	5.2	21.8 b	37.5	143 a	14.2	48.6 b	MS
13TWFC17	P	40	6	24.7 ab	37.2	181 a	10.8	46.2 b	S
13TWFC11	P	41	6.5	23.3 abc	38.9	157 a	12.3	45.7 b	S
Mi-Yen (hybrid CK)	G/P	40	5.5	12.6 d	37.5	133 b	14.3	46.6 b	HS
CV%		4.8	22.7	6.8	5.6	10.7	21	19.8	





# Bitter gourd breeding at AVRDC



# Human Trial in India

## Results after 8 weeks of intervention:

- **Reduction in body weight, BMI, and waist circumference** ( $P < 0.01$ )
- **Reduced mean fasting blood glucose** from 110.66 mg/dl to 99.86 mg/dl ( $P < 0.01$ )
- **Reduced HbA1C levels** from 6.37 % to 5.53 % ( $p < 0.01$ )
- **Increased insulin level** from 9.5 to 10.57  $\mu$ U/dl in those treated with bitter gourd compared to a reduction of 0.33  $\mu$ U/dl in the placebo treatment
- **Reduced triglyceride** ( $P < 0.05$ ), **total cholesterol** ( $p < 0.01$ ) and **LDL cholesterol** ( $p < 0.01$ )
- No change in blood pressure

# **Bitter gourd** statistics and importance

---

- Nearly 340, 000 ha are devoted to bitter gourd cultivation annually in Asia
- Fruit often used in folk medicine to treat type 2 diabetes
- 60% production area is under OPV in India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka
- Hybrids yield 20-30 t/ha whereas OPVs yield 8-10 t/ha

# Hypothesis

---

OP lines comparable to hybrids  
in yield, earliness and fruit quality

Answer: **Yes**

**Evidence?**



## Bitter gourd breeding block – Aerial view





174 g  
32 t/ha



4) 12THBG2-06A6-20



266 g  
33 t/ha



12THBG3-09A6-20



195 g  
35 t/ha



25) palee



188 g  
29 t/ha



33  
Pallavi



178 g  
22 t/ha



BAPI-1



351 g  
37 t/ha



14) 12THBG4-11A6-3

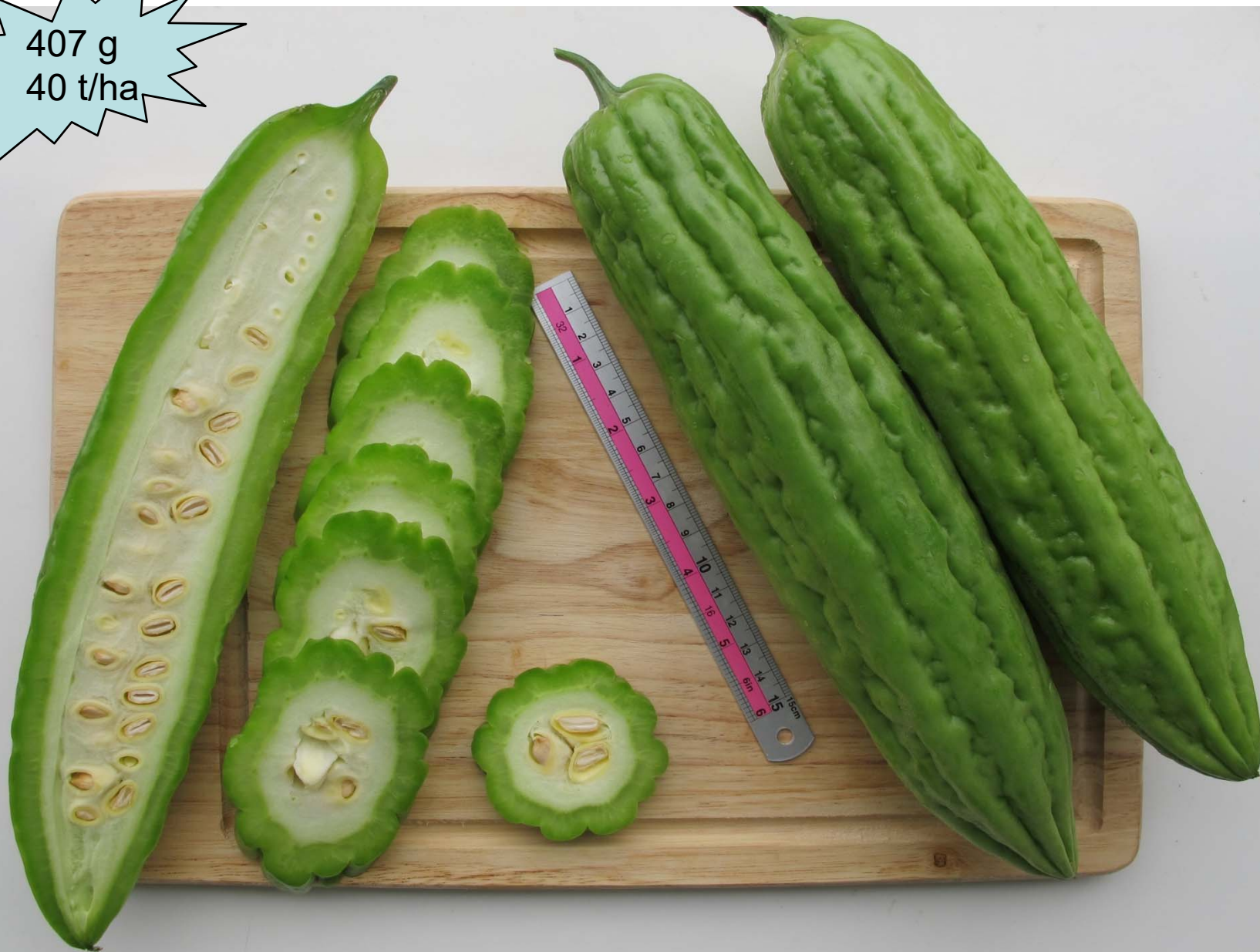
351 g  
37 t/ha



14) 12THBG4-11A6-3

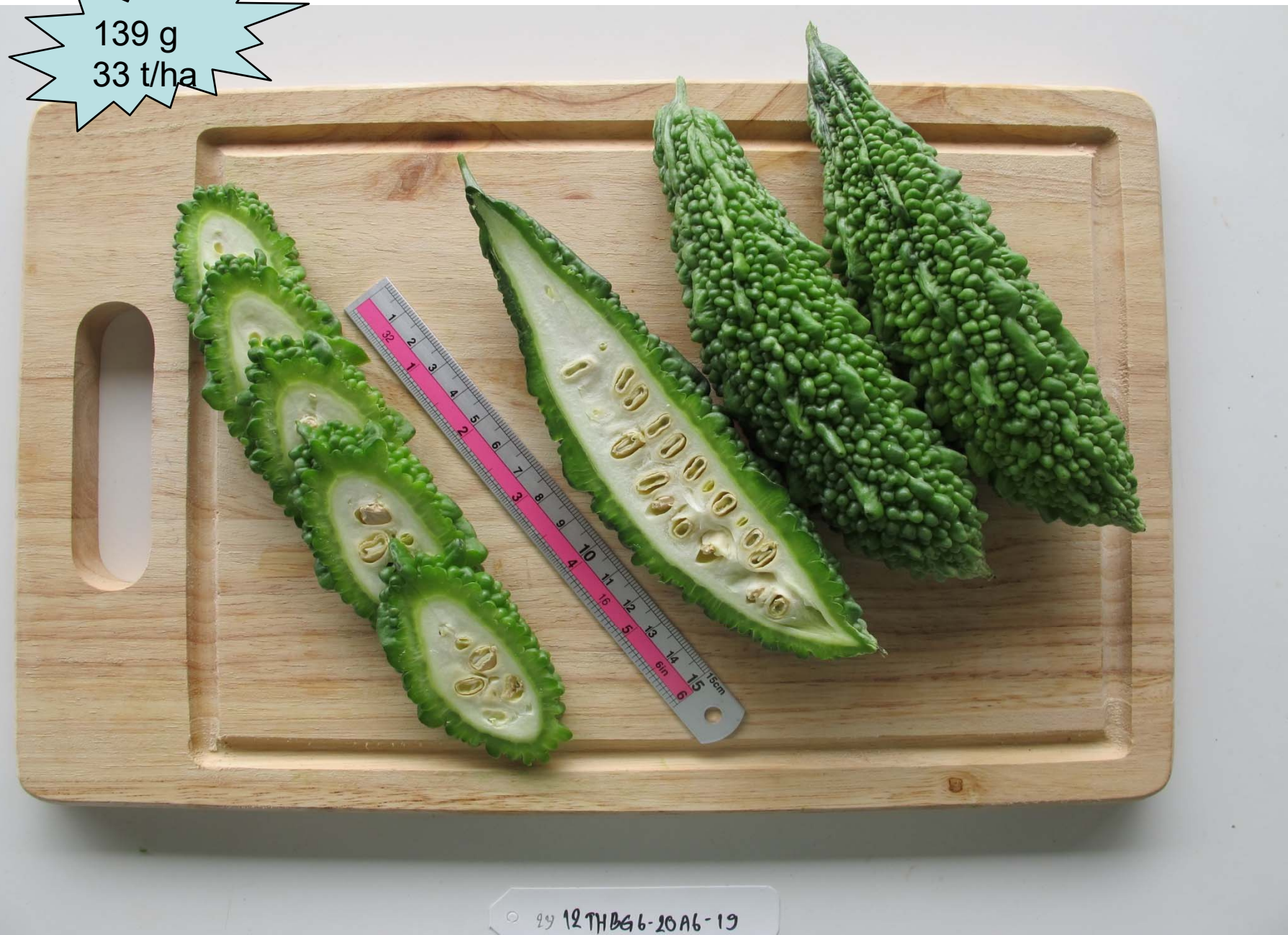


407 g  
40 t/ha



Bengteng

139 g  
33 t/ha



29 12 THBG 6-20A6-19

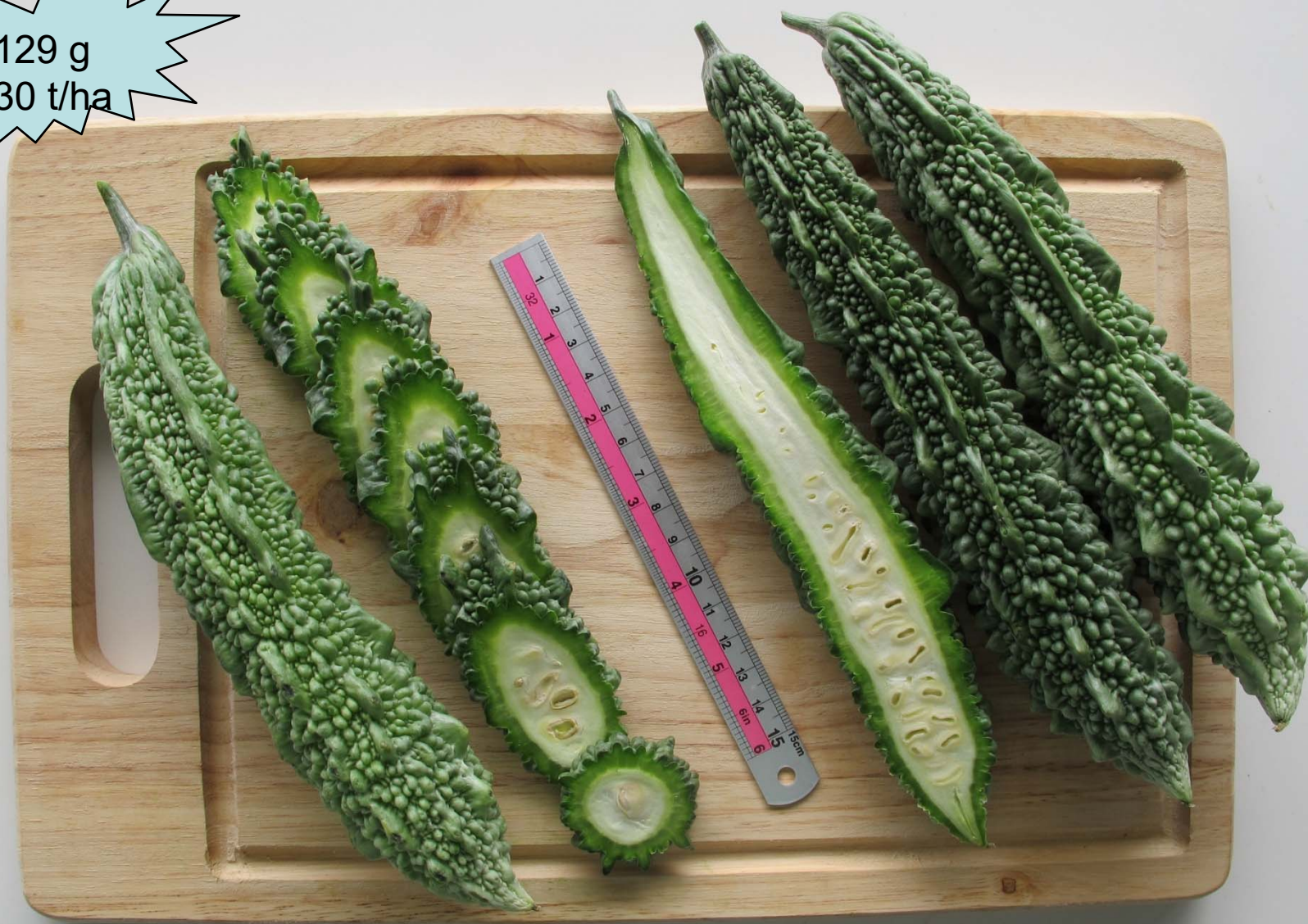


115 g  
33 t/ha

947 12THBG6-21A6-8



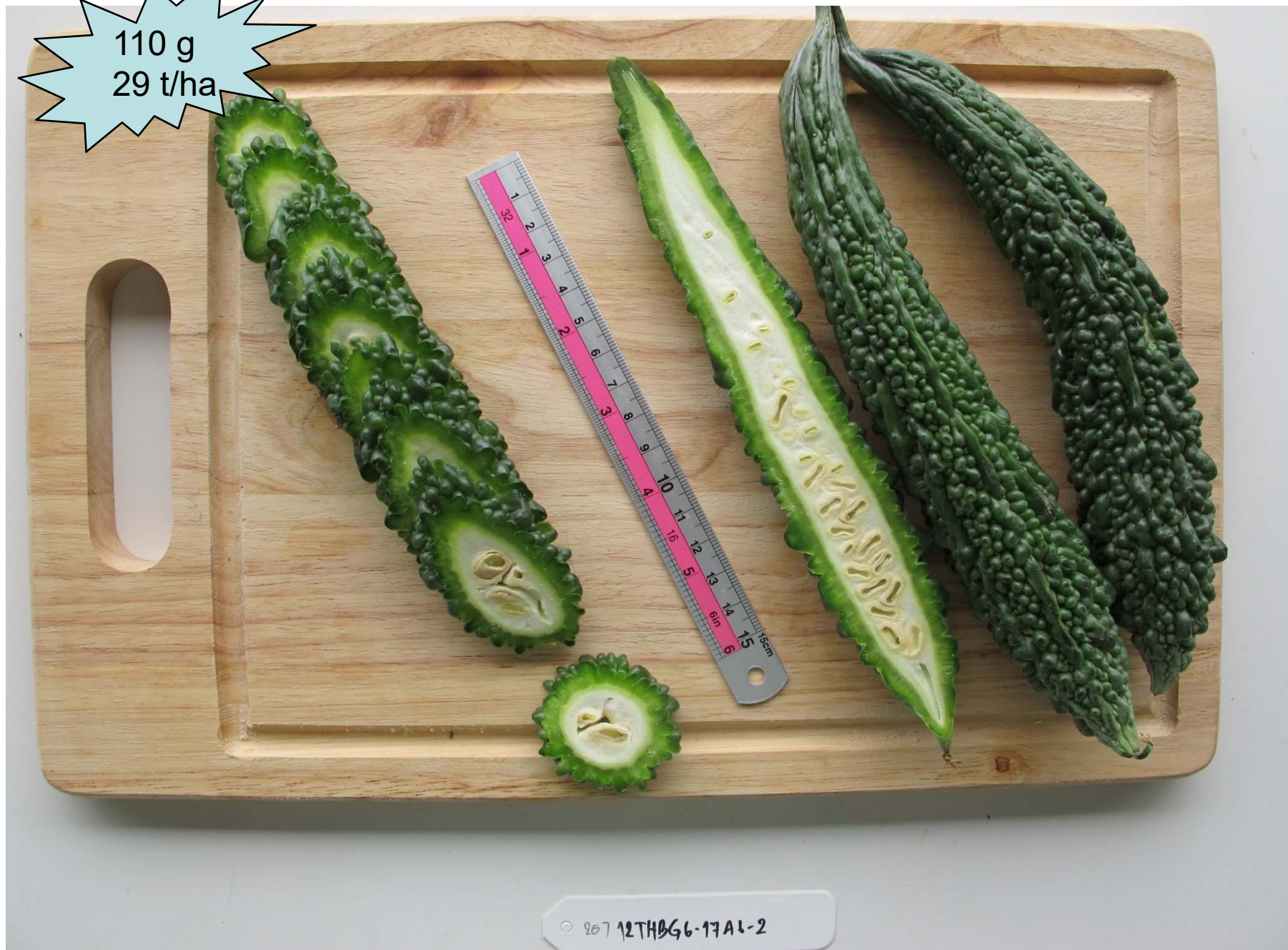
129 g  
30 t/ha



129 g  
30 t/ha



110 g  
29 t/ha





125 g  
29 t/ha



1) 12THBG1-03A6-13



## Bitter Gourd

*Momordica charantia* L.

Lines developed at AVRDC – The World Vegetable Center

**AVBG1301**



**Pedigree:** 12THBG1-03A6-13

**Parentage:** Vivek

**Adaptation:** Hot dry and hot-wet open field

**Remarks:** Vines vigorous, fruit medium size and green, spindle and spiny

To order seed, please email:

[seedrequest@worldveg.org](mailto:seedrequest@worldveg.org)

A handling fee will be charged.

For seed distribution policies, please visit the AVRDC website: [www.avrdc.org](http://www.avrdc.org)

AVRDC – The World Vegetable Center

Box 42

Shanhua, Tainan 74199

TAIWAN

Descriptors	
Bitterness*	M
Fruit color**	MG
Fruit surface	Spiny
Fruit shape	Spindle
*S=strong, M=medium, L=low	
**G=green, LG=light green, MG=medium green, DG=dark green	
Mean quantitative data*	
Number of 1st female flower node	25
Days after flowering to harvesting	14
Number of fruit/plant	45
Fruit length (cm)	18.8
Fruit width (cm)	4.6
Fruit weight (g)	125
Yield (t/ha)	35
Maturity (DAS)**	59
Shelf life (day)***	2.3
*Average quantitative data were measured in August 2013 at AVRDC, East and Southeast Asia, Kamphaeng Saen, Thailand	
**DAS: days after sowing to commercial harvest stage	
*** Shelf life: days before the fruit becomes soft under the shade in the field conditions (day/night= 32-34/26-28 °C, RH=80-85%)	

## Bitter Gourd

*Momordica charantia* L.

Lines developed at AVRDC – The World Vegetable Center

### AVBG1313



**Pedigree:** 12THBG4-10A6-19

**Parentage:** Benteng 545

**Adaptation:** Hot dry and hot-wet open field

**Remarks:** Medium fruit size, cylindrical and light green, blunt blossom end and high yielding

To order seed, please email:

[seedrequest@worldveg.org](mailto:seedrequest@worldveg.org)

A handling fee will be charged.

For seed distribution policies, please visit the AVRDC website: [www.avrdc.org](http://www.avrdc.org)

AVRDC – The World Vegetable Center

Box 42

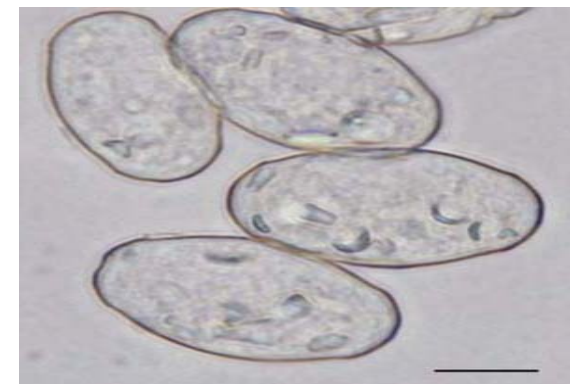
Shanhua, Tainan 74199

TAIWAN

Descriptors	
Bitterness*	L
Fruit color**	LG
Fruit surface	Ribbed
Fruit shape	Cylindrical
*S=strong, M=medium, L=low	
**G=green, LG=light green, MG=medium green, DG=dark green	
Mean quantitative data*	
Number of 1st female flower node	24
Days after flowering to harvesting	13
Number of fruit/plant	19
Fruit length (cm)	20.5
Fruit width (cm)	5.6
Fruit weight (g)	375
Yield (t/ha)	41.3
Maturity (DAS)**	59
Shelf life (day)***	2.1
*Average quantitative data were measured in August 2013 at AVRDC, East and Southeast Asia, Kamphaeng Saen, Thailand	
**DAS: days after sowing to commercial harvest stage	
*** Shelf life: days before the fruit becomes soft under the shade in the field conditions (day/night= 32-34/26-28 °C, RH=80-85%)	

## Powdery mildew resistance evaluation in bitter gourd

Looking for potential sources for resistance to powdery mildew (*Podosphaera xanthii*) in genebank accessions of bitter gourd and subsequent fixing through Inbreeding and testing against various races





## Powdery mildew infection in bitter melon field in China



Photo: Fu Jiqin, Enza Zaden



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“The Chinese growers will spray a lot to control the powdery mildew in bitter gourd fields, every 3 or 4 days. In the normal time, its every 7 days. The cost is about 75 RMB – 300 RMB (USD 12-50) for one hectare for one spray”

Fu Jiqin, Enza Zaden

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“Farmers in Chhattisgarh have to spray fungicide against powdery mildew which is a costly affair as they have to spend 7 to 10% of the total outflow of the crop in fungicides only which in terms of INR is costing them 10,000 to 30,000 (USD 160 – 480) per ha depending on the management practices and duration of the crop”

Vimal Chawda, VNR Seeds

**Powdery mildew attack in  
glasshouse bitter gourds in S. Korea**







## Disease rating of seven bitter melon lines to local isolates of *P. xanthii* at 12 locations in 6 countries

Country	Location	Bitter melon breeding line						
		THMC 113	THMC 143	THMC 144	THMC 153	THMC 167	THMC 170	THMC 177
Thailand	Kamphaeng Saen	R	R	S	R	R	S	R
	Chiang Mai	R	R	S	R	R	R	R
Vietnam	Hanoi	R	R	S	R	R	R	S
	Ho Chi Minh City	R	R	S	R	R	R	R
Taiwan	Shanhua	S	R	S	R	R	S	R
Philippines	Bukidnon	R	R	S	R	R	R	S
India	Bangalore	R	R	S	R	R	R	S
	Pune	R	R	S	R	R	S	S
	Hyderabad	R	R	S	R	R	R	R
	Raipur	S	R	S	R	R	S	R
	Jagdalpur	S	R	S	R	R	R	S
China	Guangzhou	R	S	S	R	S	R	R



**AVRDC**

**The World Vegetable Center**

# **Bitter gourd Field Fortnight**

**9 - 23 August 2015,**

**Kamphaeng Saen, Nakhon Pathom, Thailand**





# Bitter gourd open field day















A new well bodes well for growers in Bankorobougou, Mali

Pages 11-12



Farmers and agriculture the main event at Tanzania's Nane Nane Day

Page 14



## Cucurbits claim the crown

***Outstanding results from global bitter melon and pumpkin breeding programs***





# Pumpkin breeding





# Statistics: Pumpkin, squash, gourd

Continent	Area (ha)	Production (t/ha)	Average yield (t/ha)	Remarks
Africa	268,889	1,939,255	7.2	Poor fruit quality, <b>virus susceptibility</b> , nutritionally poor
Asia	1,158,942	15,951,786	13.7	Poor fruit quality, <b>virus susceptibility</b> , nutritionally poor
N. America	42,144	903,285	21.4	
World	1,774,554	24,256,767	13.6	

Source: FAOSTAT 2014

# Pumpkin virus resistance breeding in AVRDC





# Farmer's pumpkin field in Cagayan de oro (Philippines)







# Pumpkin virus survey in Kamphaeng Saen in 2013

Sample	G V	P R S V W	P O T Y	C M V	T S W V	W S M O V	Z Y M V	C G M M V	W M V 2	M Y S V	W S M o V N S s	P e P M o V
<i>C. moshata</i>	+	-	+	-	-	-	-		-	-		
<i>C. moschata</i>	+	-	+	-	-	-	-		-	-		
<i>C. moschata</i>	+	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-		
<i>C. moschata</i>	+	+	+	-	-	-	-		-	-		
<i>C. moschata</i>	-	+	+	-	-	-	-		-	-		
<i>C. moschata</i>	+	+	+	-	-	-	-		-	-		
<i>C. moschata</i>	+	+	+	-	-	-	+		-	-		

## Field design for multiple virus resistance evaluation

S	S	S	S	S	S	S
S	R	S	R	S	R	S
S	R	S	R	S	R	S
S	S	S	S	S	S	S
S	R	S	R	S	R	S
S	R	S	R	S	R	S
S	S	S	S	S	S	S



# Field screening of pumpkin breeding lines for multiple virus resistance

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# Field screening of pumpkin breeding lines for multiple virus resistance

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## Conclusion

- Our best pumpkin lines are not immune to Begomoviruses, but instead they show good tolerance to these viruses, with symptoms developing in the young tips of older plants and plants provide optimum productivity
- We need to test these lines with CMV, ZYMV and PRSV isolates of Thailand through artificial inoculation





## Artificial inoculation with potyviruses





## Artificial inoculation

THMC 122-1-6-8-7-5			
Virus	Total plants	R	S
CMV	30	30	0
PRSV	30	29	1
ZYMV	30	25	5
THMC 120-1-3-2-9-7			
CMV	30	30	0
PRSV	30	29	1
ZYMV	30	26	4
Sus Check	30	0	30



# Screening pumpkin lines against **SqLCV**





# Screening pumpkin lines against **SqLCV**





# Screening pumpkin lines against **SqLCV**





## Board of Directors & AVRDC staff in pumpkin breeding block





## Board of Directors & AVRDC staff in pumpkin breeding block





Visitor from Rasi Seeds

2013





# Visitors from Chia Tai Seeds





# Visitors from East-West Seed





# Visitor from Real Seeds











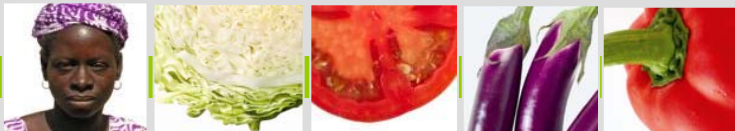


# Lemon melon



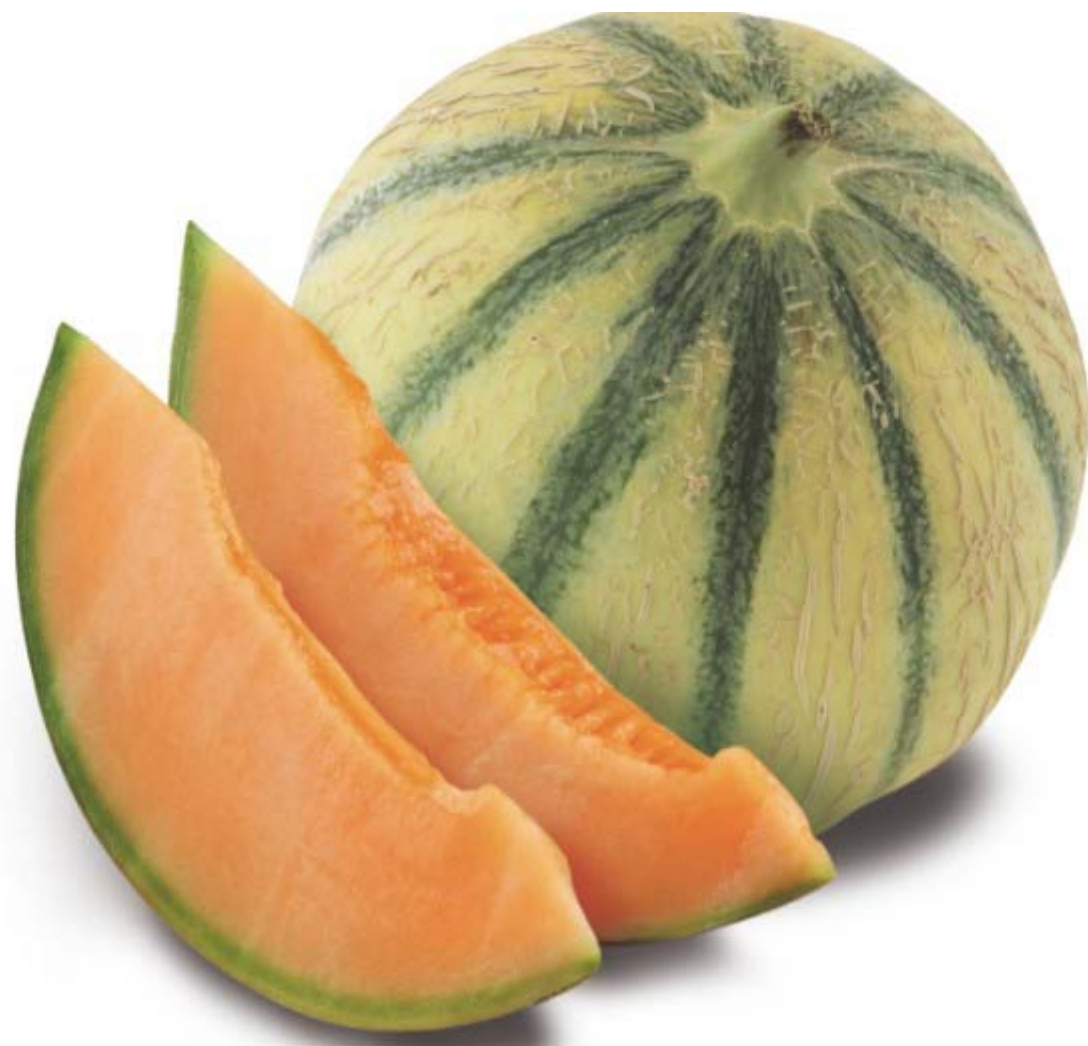
700/800 mg of citric acid/100 g of fruit flesh

pH 4.5 compared with 6.5 for a standard melon



Cosmetic breeding !!!

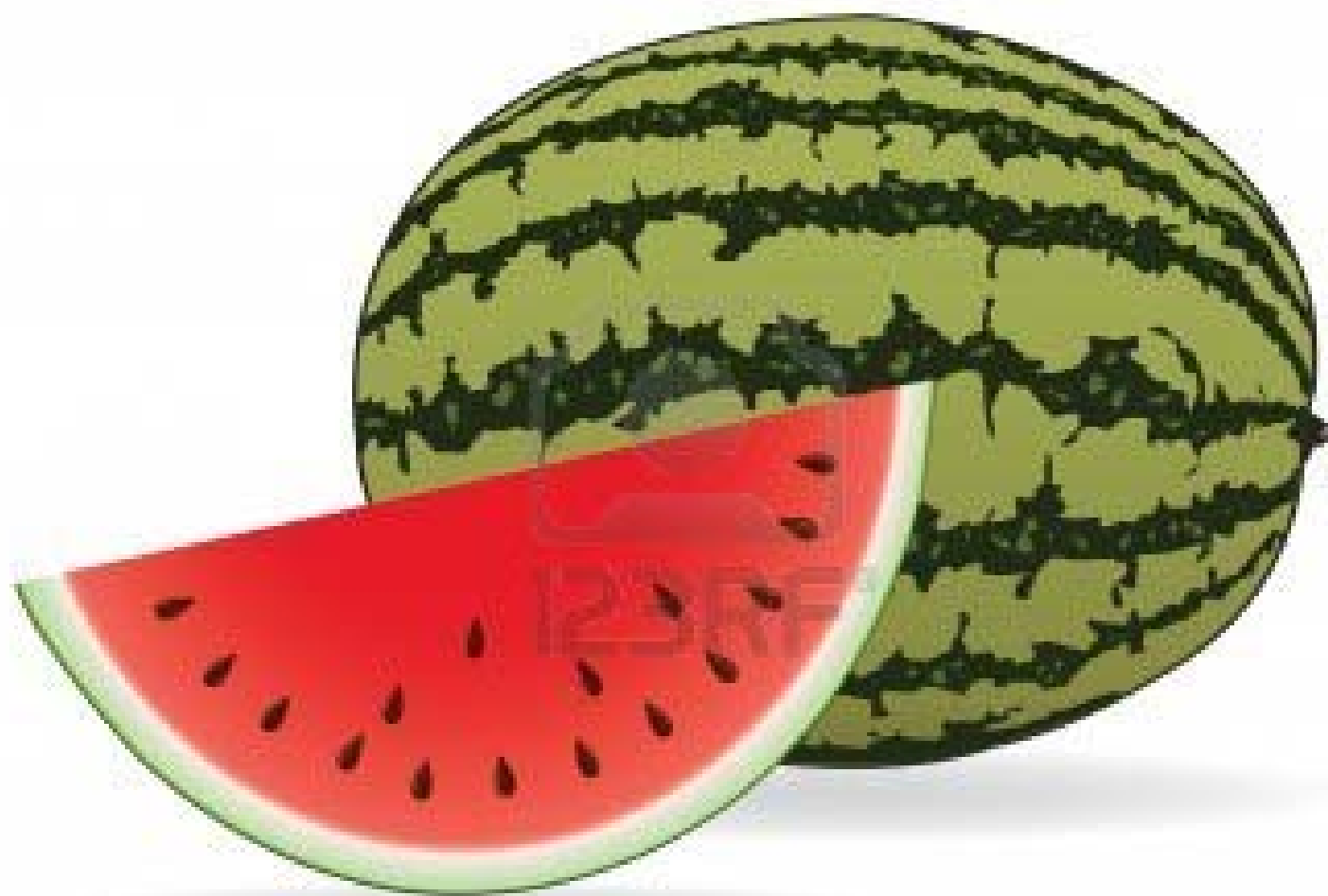




# Future melons - Cosmetic breeding !



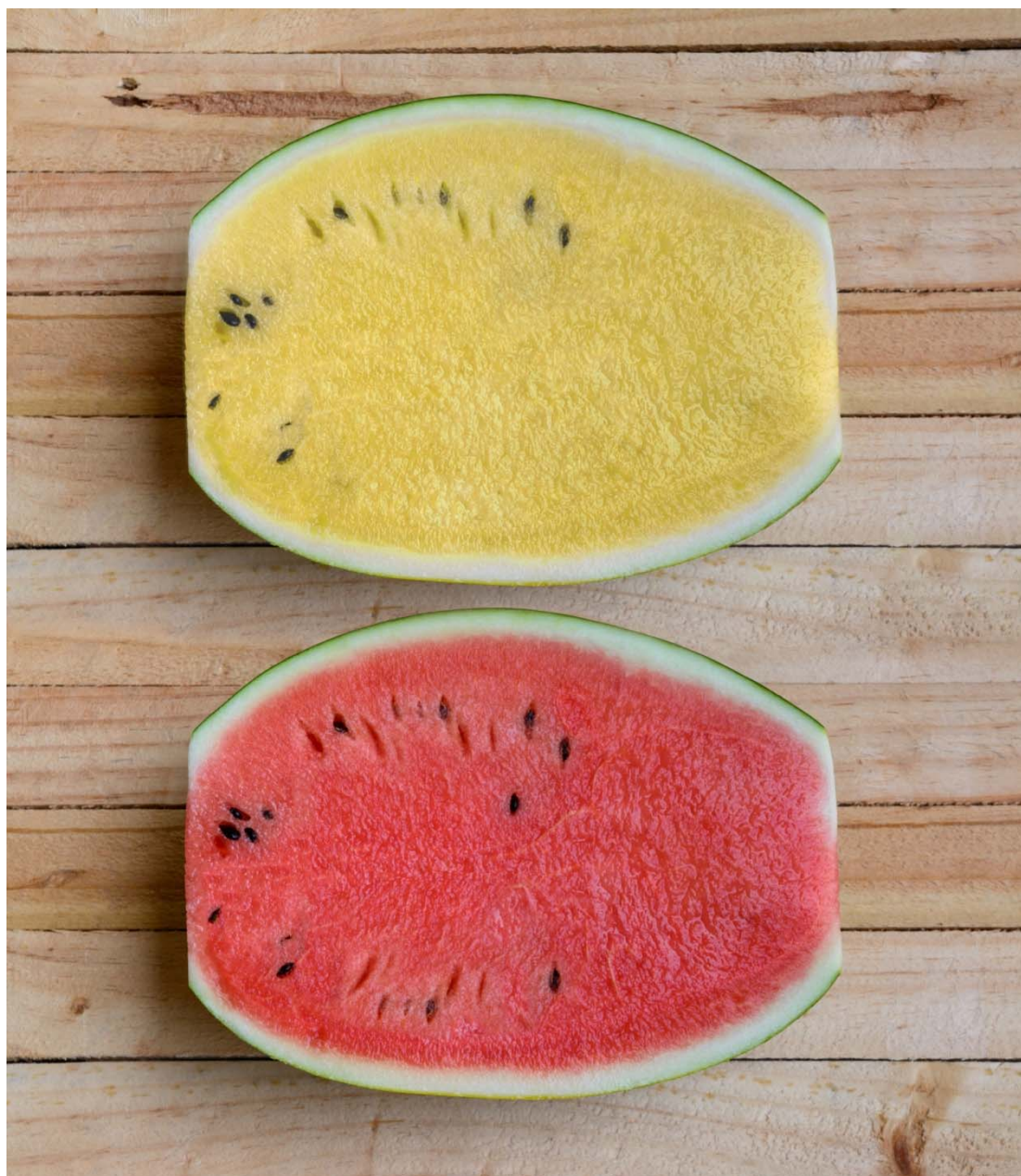


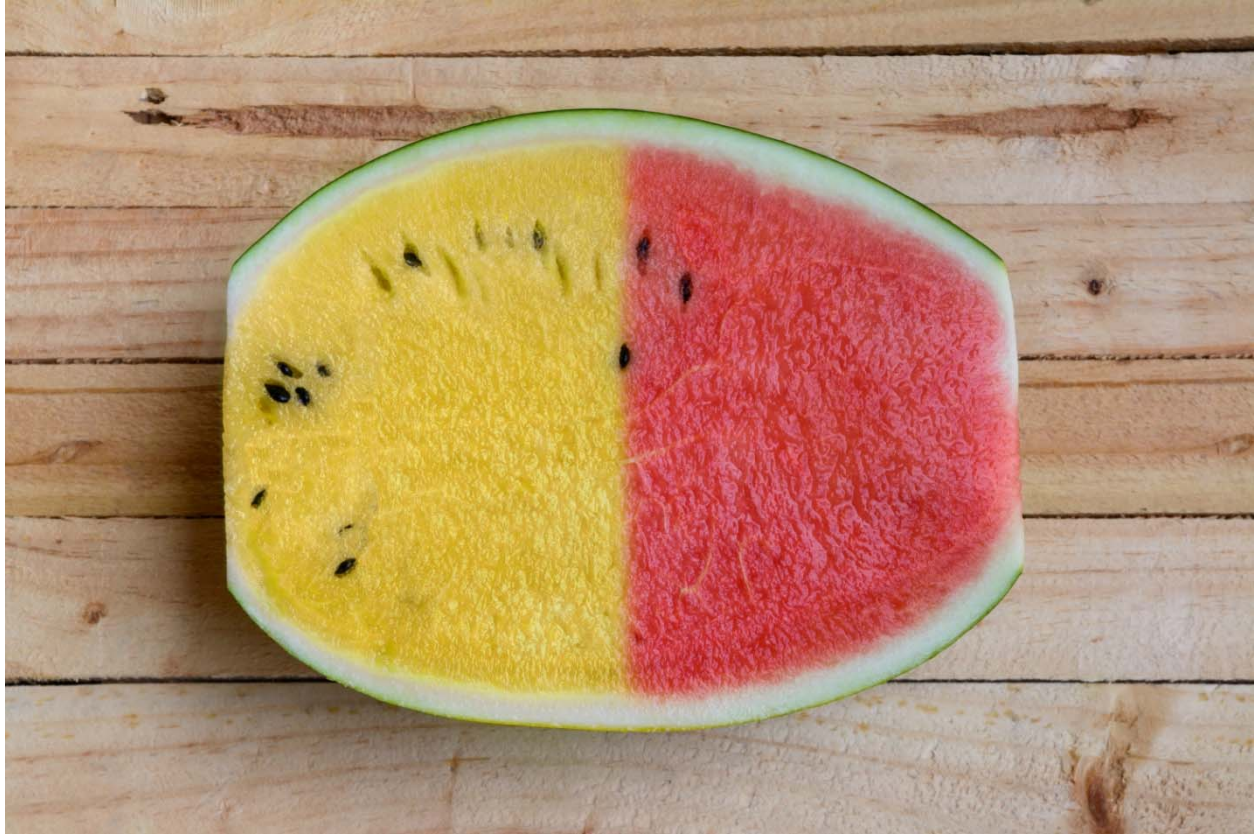


# Future Watermelons – Cosmetic breeding !

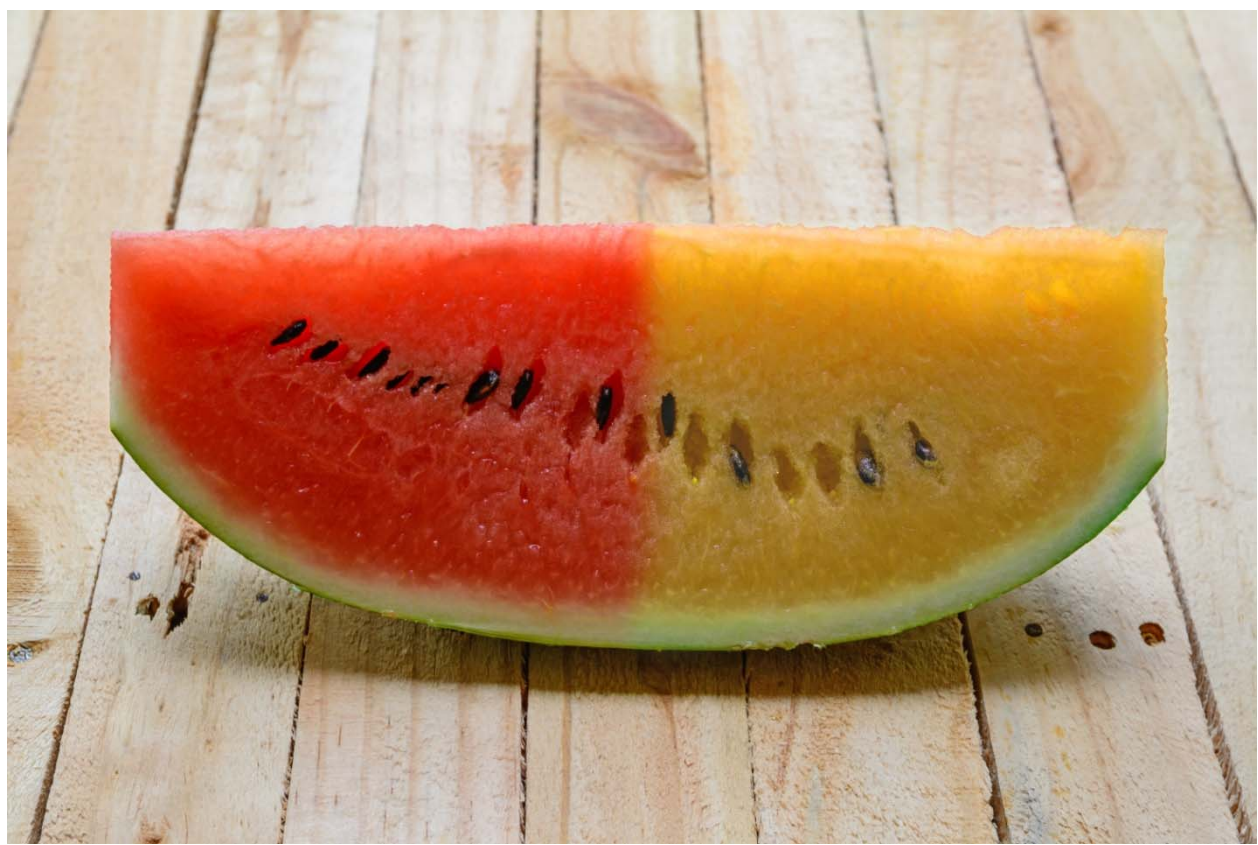


















# Future cabbages!





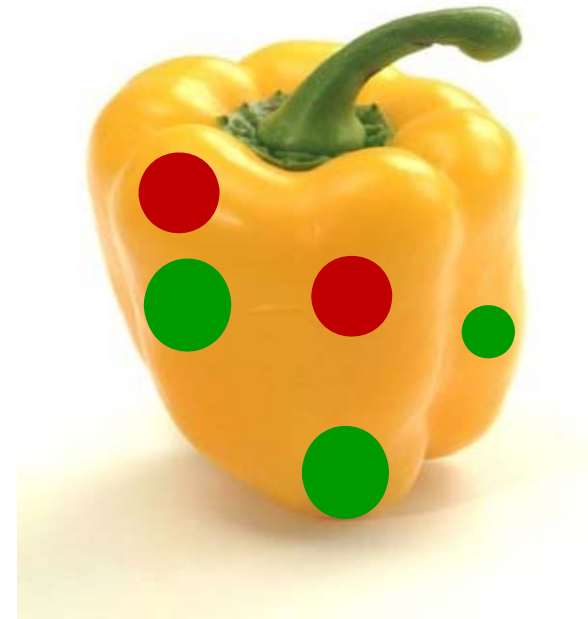
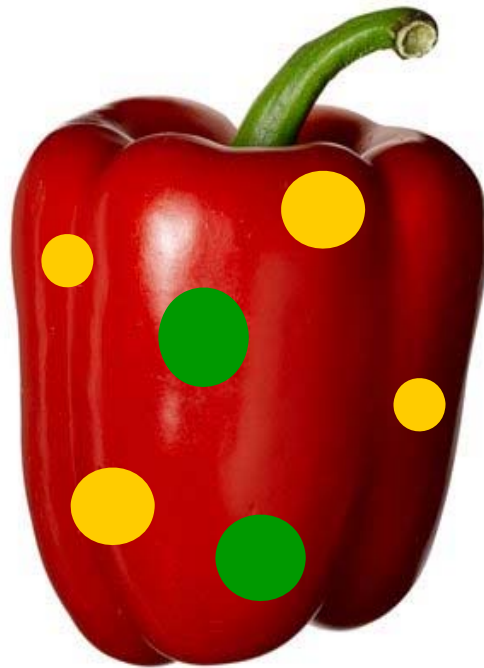
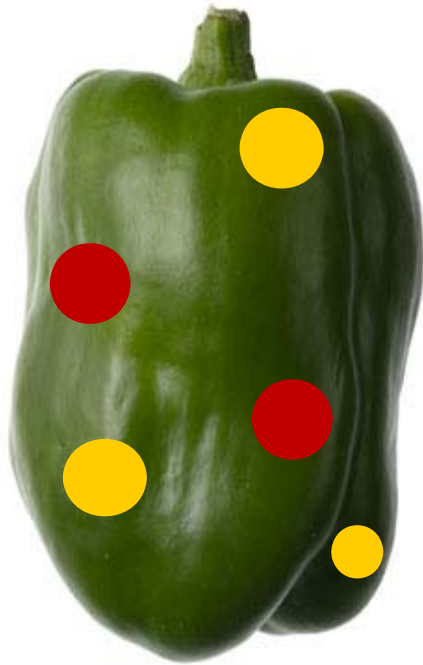
# Future cabbages!







## Future Sweet peppers – Cosmetic breeding!





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# Cucurbit Crew in Thailand





# Have a good day!



KU Kamphaeng Saen