Strawberry Pre-plant 2020

Strawberry Breeding Updates Gina_Fernandez@NCSU.edu

Breeding process

First stage				
Seedlings • Seeds from crossed are planted in the field • 1000's plants	Second stage			
	Selections	Third stage		
	 1-2 % of the seedlings are "selected" for more observations 100's 	Replicated and on- farm trials • The best selections are put in trials and compared to standard cultivars • 10's		

NCSU Strawberry Breeding Stages

- 3 Stages (in the field)
 - Seedlings (CCRS and HCRS)
 - About 5000
 - Selections (CCRS)
 - 29 selections evaluated in 2020
 - 200? in the nursery
 - Cultivar trial (CCRS and PRS)
 - 12 cultivars/advanced lines

Data Collection: Seedlings

- Each plant looked at 1-2 week
- Plants with "good" traits are flagged with colored flags blue early, orange watch. Wooden stakes with notes are placed in ground next to plants that have "good" traits.
- Good traits include fruit/plants that have:
 - Commercial potential
 - May be useful in the breeding program, such as disease resistance
- Less than 2% make it to the next stage given Selection number (NC 20-001)
- 120 new selections in 2020



Data collection: Selections

- Field
 - Horticultural traits such as plant vigor, appearance, cap size, firmness etc
 - Diseases (which ones and how bad are they?)
 - Pictures
- Lab (garage)
 - 25 berry weight (3-4 times a season)
 - Brix (sugar levels)
 - More horticultural traits (color, seed location, internal color, shape etc)
 - 5 berries frozen for pH, TA, Brix, anthocyanins etc (PHHI/Kannapolis)



Evaluation in field



- Tablet used to phenotype (evaluate fruit and plant traits), usually on a scale of 1-9
- Diseases (Botrytis, Phytophtora, Antracnose)
- Season
- Number of plants/runners
- Vigor
- Location of flowers
- Truss size
- Yield estimate
- Etc

Data collection in Corona era lab (garage)



- 25 berry weight (3 separate times)
- Brix (pH, TTA later with frozen berries)
- Appearance
- Firmness
- Skin toughness
- Flavor
- Achene (seed) position
- Comments

Next season



- Seedlings
- 120 Selections will be in 10 plant plots 2021
- Replicated selection/cultivar trials
- Crossing in spring
- Anthracnose screening/markers

















Cultivar/selection trial

Piedmont Research marketable percent of			- 20 Total yield, marketa	able yield , percen	t marketable yield ,		
Genotype	Total Yield (lbs/A)	Marketable Yield (lbs/A)	Percentage Marketable Yield (% of total)	Marketable Percent of Chandler	Average berry weight (g)		
Rocco	22,234	18,016	81	114%	13.9	small fruit	
Chandler	22,337	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		100%	11.1	small fruit, water	
Sensation	21,353			93%	22.6	Lots water damage	
CaminoReal	17,838	· · · · ·		91%	18.2		
Liz	17,218	13,588	³ 79	86%	15.0		
Brilliance	16,109	10,561	66	67%	16.0	Lots water damage	
Camarosa	15,886	10,893	69	69%	13.1		
Merced	14,610	11,278	3 76	71%	19.4		
SweetCharlie	14,175	11,474	79	73%	11.7		
Calinda	12,128	8,089	67	51%	14.4	Lots water damage	
Rocco late	12,070	10,611	88	67%	18.2		
RubyJune	11,080	9,693	89	61%	21.5	some water damage	
NJ15-1-2	9,028	5,673	62	36%	12.1	low yield, nice appearance	
NJ9-2-1	6,737	4,275	61	27%	12.1	ugly but nice flavor	
Liz late	6,370	4,885	5 76	31%	19.1		

Breeding program overview (team effort)

- Since 2016...
- On farm trials of NCS 10-038 and NCS 10-156 in 6 states including 7 NC sites
- Increased number of seedlings evaluated from a couple hundred to 5000/year
- Selections 2 to 100
- Released 'Rocco' and 'Liz' (plant patents pending)

- Screened core selections for AFR and ACR
- Developed and screened mapping population, identified QTL's for AFR and ACR
- Established an in vitro system for germplasm (MPRU)
- Fingerprint NCSU germplasm
- PhD student now Post Doc
- 5 undergrad/interns trained

NC STATE UNIVERSITY

Thank you

- CCRS
- PRS
- NCSA
- Rocco, Memo, Maria, Katie, Keegan, Kylie, Brianna and others

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Google: strawberry portal NCSU

https://strawberries.ces.ncsu.edu/2020/06/replicate d-breeding-trial-data-now-online/