

Squash: South Anna Butternut (*C. moschata*)



Starting & Ending Population Size

Starting population size:
35 (Stable seed stock)
60+ (Poor seed stock)

Harvest population size: Fruits for seed production should be harvested from a minimum of **20 plants**.

Isolation Distance

1.5km (or hand pollinate)

A note on seed maturity

After harvest, it is best to let the fruit ripen for at least 1 month before extracting seeds as they continue to draw nutrition from the flesh. Tasting for flavour should be done after 1+ months, and storage quality needs 2+ months to evaluate as well so don't rush to collect seed!

Before Flowering

Rogue plants: Low vigour
(5-10% of population)
Off-type growth habit
(should be vining)

Early fruit stage

Select fruits:
Butternut shape, light to dark green skin
Rogue fruits: Off-type shape at ovary stage

At Fruit Maturity & Harvest

Select fruits:
Earliest to ripen
Tan colour
Flavour (after 1+ month)
Select plants:
Productivity
DM Resistance

Further Roguing & Selection Information

Before plants begin to flower: Off-type plants should first be rogued at the vegetative stage, paying particular attention to low vigor and off-type growth habit. South Anna has a vine habit, so any bush type plants should be removed before flowering occurs.

Early fruit stage: Pay attention to the shape of the earliest fruits. Off-type fruits may be detected at the ovary stage even before the flower opens. As long as the population size is large enough, the appearance of an off-type plant after flowering is not a cause for concern as long as the off-type is removed promptly. Skin should be light to dark green when immature.

At fruit maturity and harvest: As with roguing other crops, remember that occasionally a fruit will be deformed (usually for environmental reasons), in which case the fruit is still usable for seed provided that the other fruits borne on the same plant are true to type. Ripe fruits should be fully tan coloured. Flag plants for good flavoured fruit at harvest maturity to determine which plants to select fruits from at seed maturity.

In storage: Rogue out any fruits showing signs of mould, rot, or disease. It may take more than 2 months for this to show.

Notes from our stock seed provider Commonwealth Seeds: Bred by Edmund Frost of Commonwealth Seed Growers, South Anna (AKA SeminolexWaltham F6) is a Downy Mildew resistant butternut from the fifth generation of a cross between Waltham butternut and Seminole pumpkin. It has been intensively selected for eating quality, Downy Mildew resistant foliage, yield and shape. Expect 90% butternut-shaped fruits, with good productivity, rich sweet flavor, and good keeping quality. Immature fruits vary between light and dark green in color (most immature butternuts are light green). The dark green ones take longer to turn fully tan, but when they do you can be sure that they are ripe. The intensive way to do selection is to train each plant separately, and then select for 1) DM resistance, 2) yield per plant and 3) eating quality. Pledged as an Open Source Seed Initiative variety.



***These are suggested tips and strategies for selecting a true to type Geno-ese zucchini squash. You are welcome to look for other characteristics that you find appealing or suit your farm, market or growing condition. Please make note of it if you do so. ***

