



**SPECIAL  
POINTS OF  
INTEREST:**

- Wellington Pumpkinfest weigh off results
- 2010 PECPG seed sale
- GVGO News

**INSIDE THIS  
ISSUE:**

2009 Weigh off Highlights	2-5
Official Wellington Results	6-7
Tribute to Jim Ives	8
Irrigation Water	9
2009 seed sale package	10
09 Seed Sale Proven & Promising Seeds	11
Tips to Beat the Winter Blue's GVGO News	12

# Prince Edward County Pumpkin Growers

## Fall Newsletter

VOLUME 13, ISSUE 1

FALL 2010

### 14th Annual Pumpkinfest, The Best Ever!

October 14th was a beautiful day for the 14th annual PEC Pumpkinfest. Growers and spectators came out in record numbers to celebrate the fall and the pumpkins.

23 Pumpkins and 4 squash were displayed along with Long Gourds, Tall Sun flower,, Tomato's as well as new categories for Giant Field Pumpkin and Giant Watermelon.

The surprise of the day was Jim & Kelsey Bryson of Ormstown QC, weighing in there 1404.4 behemoth at an amazing 27% heavy! Jim and his daughter took home the grand prize of \$750, and set a new site record weight.

Top squash of the day was grown by Shirley Vandor of Ormstown QC., weighing in at 749.8 lbs.

Top Long Gourd was exhibited by Chris

Lyons of Scarborough at 107.75".

Tallest Sunflower was exhibited by Shannon Langridge of Picton at 192.25"

The new category of Largest Watermelon was exhibited by Dave Leeworthy of Ameliasburgh at 94 lbs. The other new category for the year was Giant Field Pumpkin. This class was also well represented. John Lyons of Baltimore took top honours at 103.0 lbs.

John Lyons also won the Tomato class with his 5.35 lb entry.

The Bill Greer Memorial Award for largest pumpkin grown in prince Edward county was won by John Vincent of Picton with his 1046 lb entry.

The Howard Dill award was won by Chris Delaney of Pickering.



# The Winners Circle



Above, John Vincent, Bill Greer Memorial award winner, for largest pumpkin grown in Prince Edward County



Above, Jim and Kelsey Bryson, display their champion 1404 lb Pumpkin.. Upper right Chris Lyons, with his winning Long Gourd, Right, Shannon Langridge with her winning tall sunflower, Below Chris Delaney and family with his Howard Dill award winner. Below, left John Lyons with his winning Tomato, Left is Shirley Vandor, with her champion Squash.





Dan Langridge



Dave Leeworthy



Mario Spinosa



Cliff Webb



Ward Valitalo



Dave Leeworthy



Brandon and Brant Timm



Noah and Josh McGill



Chris Lyons

# More Highlights!



Gladys Webb



Kaleigh Topp



Coach Russ Landry was our Judge for the event.



John Lyons



Todd Kline



Todd Kline



Sarah Langridge



Shannon Langridge



The Brant boys and their tomato's!

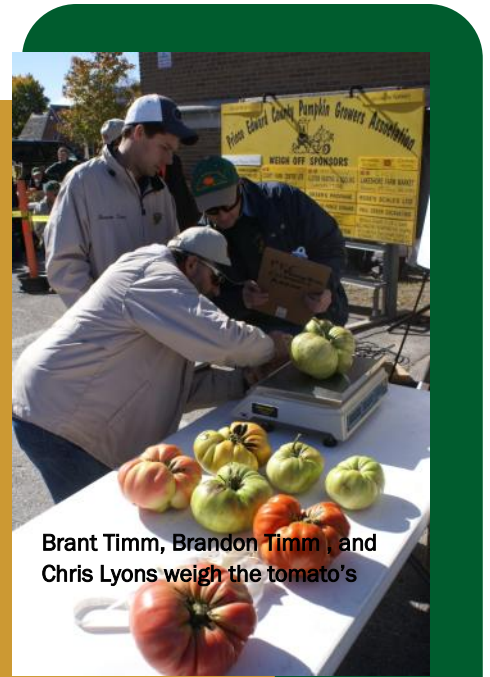
# Good Times...Good Friends



Our Faithfull Fork Lift Driver, Alvin Huffman



Brian McGill is presented his World Record squash Trophy and Green Jacket by Russ Landry, GPC Vice President



Brant Timm, Brandon Timm, and Chris Lyons weigh the tomato's



Sarah Langridge



Brian Mailey with "The Club!"



Chris Lyons

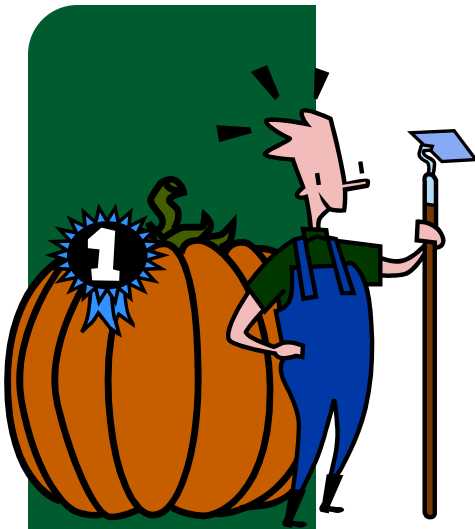


Greg Montgomery



Elmer Daley

# Wellington Official Results



Mark your  
Calendars for next  
years Wellington  
Pumpkinfest  
October 15th  
2011!



## Pumpkins

1. Jim and Kelsey Bryson	Ormstown, QC	1404.4
2. Chris Lyons	Scarborough, ON	1258.6
3. Todd Kline	Shawville QC	1224.0
4. Russ Landry	Thornton ON	1148.6
5. Phil Hunt	Cameron ON	1080.6
6. John Vincent	Picton, ON	1046.0
7. Chris Delaney	Pickering, ON	990.0
8. Greg Montgomery	Port Carling, ON	907.0
9. Phil Joynson	Enniskillin, ON	881.4
10. Sue Vincent	Picton, ON	849.8
11. Bryan Mailey	Udora, ON	846.0
12. Shannon Langridge	Picton, ON	782.8
13. Elmer Daley	Wellington, ON	668.4
14. Noah McGill	Picton, ON	661.6
15. Cliff Webb	Seely's Bay, ON	656.6
16. Shelia Huffman	Ameiliasburg, ON	655.0
17. Dan Langridge	Picton, ON	632.8
18. Sarah Langridge	Picton, ON	617.0
19. Gladys Webb	Seely's Bay, ON	532.4
20. David Leeworthy	Ameiliasburg, ON	462.8
21. Kaleigh Leeworthy	Ameiliasburg, ON	205.4
22. Ward Valitalo	Wellington, On	180.8
23. Mario Spinosa	Milford, ON	169.8

## Squash

1. Shirley Vandor	Ormstown, QC	749.8
2. Shannon Langridge	Picton, ON	560.2
3. Sarah Langridge	Picton, On	445.8
4. Dan Langridge	Picton, ON	392.4

## Long Gourd

1. Chris Lyons	Scarborough, ON	107.75"
2. John Lyons	Baltimore, ON	106.44"
3. Brant & Brandon Timm	Pembroke, ON	102.25"
4. Todd Kline	Shawville, QC	97.62"
5. Bryan Mailey	Udora, ON	97.5"
6. John Vincent	Picton, ON	97.25"
7. Sue Vincent	Picton, ON	91.06"

**Tomato**

1. John Lyons	Baltimore, ON	5.35 lbs
2. Brant & Brandon Timm	Pembroke, ON	4.77 lbs
3. Brant & Brandon Timm	Pembroke, ON	4.64 lbs
4. Chris Lyons	Scarborough, ON	4.12 lbs
5. John Vincent	Picton, On	2.22 lbs
6. Sue Vincent	Picton, On	2.15 lbs

**Watermelon**

1. Dave Leeworthey	Ameliasburg, ON	94.0 lbs
2. Sarah Langridge	Picton, ON	83.6 lbs
3. Shannon Langridge	Picton, ON	79.0 lbs
4. Dan Langridge	Picton, ON	61.2 lbs

**Field Pumpkin**

1. John Lyons	Baltimore, ON	103.0 lbs
2. Chris Lyons	Scarborough, ON	88.6 lbs
3. Sue Vincent	Picton, ON	51.6 lbs
4. Sarah Langridge	Picton, ON	45.2 lbs
5. Dan Langridge	Picton, ON	45.0 lbs
6. John Vincent	Picton, ON	44.4 lbs
7. Shannon Langridge	Picton, ON	43.8 lbs

**Sunflower results**

1. Shannon Langridge	Picton, On	192.25"
2. Sarah Langridge	Picton, ON	176.75"
3. Dan Langridge	Picton, ON	173.25"
4. Joel Dempster		122.875"



Bryan Mailey



Sheila Huffman & "Cali"



Chris Lyons



Phil Joynson



Phil & Jane Hunt



Sarah Langridge



Sue Vincent

## Jim Ives Passes the Torch



Jim with his 2009 pumpkin entry!

Jim Ives along with his wife Marilyn have long been the backbone of the PECPG! Involved with the local club since the beginning, they have put in countless hours with the festival, organizing the seed sale, building and distributing the newsletter, and answering phone calls and e-mail from all over the world. Although a tremendous amount of work, it has been a labour of love for Jim and Marilyn.

Their love for growing giant pumpkins and the community involvement and fellowship has kept them neck deep in the hobby for more than 15 years. They have traveled extensively for the hobby and met countless new friends along the way. After all these years, they have decided to step away from the club and the festival to spend more time in their retirement. As well, longtime volunteer

Maggie Greer has also stepped down from her roll, helping with the weigh off. We would like to thank all three for their tireless efforts over the years and wish them all the best in their future.

We would like to Welcome our new secretary treasurer, Sheila Huffman. Shelia has been growing giant pumpkins for a couple years now and shares a passion for the hobby with her son Glen.

## Squash Vine Borer Invade PEC

That's right folks, there is no question now, the Squash vine borer or SVB is here!

All around us, this pest has been the plague of the pumpkin world, and up until recently, we have been relatively free from this pest. Long time grower Arnold Vader, says they used to see SVB's occasionally in the sugar pie pumpkin crop, however, it was never a major problem.

There have been several reports over the last couple years of moth sightings and the occasional larva found burrowed in a vine or fruit. This year we have had numerous sightings along with multiple entry wounds reported by several growers.

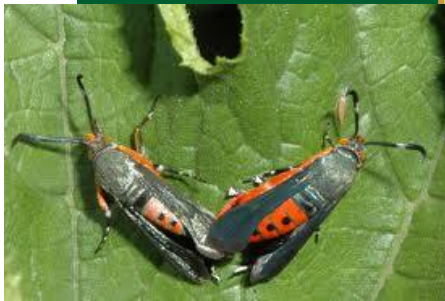
The insect is a red and black moth, flying into the area from its over wintering grounds in the southern US. The moths first appear in early to mid June and continue until late July and early August. They lay a number of small eggs on the underside of the leaf. Once they hatch, the larva make their way down the leaf stem to the vine, where they bore into the vine and begin feeding on the soft inner tissue. The larva can go undetected for several weeks, until they have caused enough tissue damage that the infected plant sections simply shuts down. Often the first symptom is a completely wilted down vine section, which is too late to save.

In this case an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure! Once the vines have been infected, the only method of treatment is physical removal of the larva through careful surgery.

Best prevention is pretreatment of the planting area with a soil applied systemic insecticide called Admire (Merit in the US). Unfortunately, this product is pesticide license only. However it is available over the counter and on line in some US states.

Soil applied insecticide followed by a foliar pyrethroid like Matador (Warrior in the US), is also recommended,

Early vine burring is also an effective prevention, keeping the larva from finding an entry point.





# Irrigation Water Quality

By John Vincent, Certified Crops Advisor

There has been a lot of discussion this season about irrigation water quality. Many growers have been using warmed water for years, but lately this has become less of a priority. It was last winter that Russ Landry brought up the topic of irrigation water pH and hardness as it pertains to nutrient uptake and more specifically calcium uptake. It is well known that sprayer water quality has a tremendous effect on chemical efficacy. It is common in production agriculture to use soft water or pH adjusted water for spraying, especially with the use of fungicides and insecticides.

Although I had worked in the horticultural supply industry for many years, I had never heard the topic come up before. I did some further research and discovered that it was common in the commercial vegetable, tobacco and green house industry to treat the irrigation water, to lower pH and reduce water hardness.

So called "hard water", contains minerals mainly Calcium Carbonate, Magnesium and sometimes Iron. These minerals are plant nutrients, but are also cations, which means they carry a positive electrical charge. These minerals are also very base in pH which makes the water pH high.

Over the winter, soft acid rain water and snow, saturate the soil structure. As the soil begins to dry in the spring the water molecules surface tension causes a thin film of water to form around each of the soil colloids. This water is known as hygroscopic water.

In the soil, clay and organic matter particles carry a negative electrical charge (anions). This is what gives a soil its cation exchange capacity or C.E.C. What this does in the soil is it attracts positively charged nutrients (called cations), such as Calcium, Magnesium and Potassium. They tend to repel negatively charged ions, such as Nitrate Nitrogen. That is basically why Nitrogen leaches from the soil. Its all magnetic.

When we start to apply hard high pH irrigation water in the spring, this water displaces the softer, lower pH water adhered to the soil colloids. This water with its strong positive charge tend to tie up some of the negatively charged soil nutrients.

Through my research, I came across a water treatment product sold by a company called CanGrow, which is the Canadian distributor for Stoller Micronutrients. The product is called NuBalance. Its claim to fame is that it lowers irrigation water pH, while also deionizing the water and actually makes the calcium and magnesium in the water more plant available, without causing any tie ups in the soil!

NuBalance mixed at around 1L per 1000 gals of water. This varies depending on water quality. The cost is approximately \$2/ l or \$20 for a 10L container. I will have the product for sale in 2011, through my supply company, Cutting Edge Horticultural. Contact me for more info [j.vincent@xplor.net.ca](mailto:j.vincent@xplor.net.ca)



*"Water hardness is related to the content of calcium carbonate and magnesium carbonate dissolved in the water, often expressed in units of grains per gallon. Hard water has from 7.0 to 10.5 grains, and very hard water has in excess of 10.5 grains. You may recognize that calcium carbonate and magnesium carbonate are the components of limestone. When hard water is used for irrigation, it's the same as adding a small amount of lime every time you water. Over time, this continual addition of lime will increase the pH of the growing medium."*

*Russ Landry- March 2010*

# PECPG 2010 Seed Sale



## 2010 Seed Package:

1 seed **1618.2 Bryson 10**

Female: 1556 Werner 07

Male: 1544 Reviere 09

Note: 2010 Canadian Champion Pumpkin. 1<sup>st</sup> place at Port Elgin Pumpkinfest Saturday weigh off.

2 seeds **1367 Lyons 10**

Female: 1161 Rodonis 07

Male: 901 Hunt 07

Note: 2<sup>nd</sup> Place at Port Elgin on Saturday. Grown on the same seed as the 1810 Stevens world record. This is a super cross folks. The 901 grew Phil and Jane's 2009 Canadian record 1678!

1 seeds **1329.7 Hunt 10**

Female: 901 Hunt 07

Male: 1068 Wallace 03

Note: This pumpkin went a whopping 16% heavy, winning first at Hugli's Blueberry ranch weigh off in Pembroke. The pumpkin had a nice orange colour. This is one of a kind cross folks, combining two of the hottest seeds ever! This seed has it all, heavy and eye appeal.

2 seeds **1224 Kline 10**

Female: 1264 Kline

Male: 1207 Young

Note: 6% Heavy. 3<sup>rd</sup> place at Wellington, lots of good genetics here.

1 seeds **1091 Bryson 10**

Female: 1544.5 Revier 09

Male: 1333 Young 09

Note: This pumpkin went 5% heavy

2 seeds **1046.0 Vincent 10**

Female: 1421 Stelts 09

Male: 901 Hunt 07

Note: Combining two of the top all time seeds. This plant was very slow out of the gate, but ended up producing the best pumpkin in the patch this year

2 seeds **948.5 Lyons 10**

Female: 985 Werner 06

Male: 1161 Rodonis 07

Note: Chris lost most of the stem to rot in late July, Picked two weeks before weigh off. +11%. Pollinating plant grow 1367. Chris highly recommends this seed!

2 seeds **513.5 Vincent 10**

Female: 1059 Vincent McGill 09

Male: 1161 Rodonis 07

Note: Another deep red orange pumpkin from the Vincent super orange line. This Pumpkin was very late pollinated and never had a chance to develop to its full potential. Howard Dill award winner (3<sup>rd</sup> generation in a row) at Woodbridge Fair. Pollinating plant produced a deep red orange pumpkin also. This seeds has great potential for **Big and Orange!**

Each set will also get their choice of one of the following proven seeds, 1378 Pitura 07, 1263 Pitura 07, 1012 Pitura 06 or 850 Slusarek 07. These seeds have all grown 12-1300 lb pumpkins! These seeds will be distributed on a first come first served basis, so please list first and second choice.

Only 50 sets are being offered.

There are a limited number of proven seeds available below that you can add to your order. These will be distributed on a first come first serve basis.

Proven Seeds Available**1451.5 Sundin 09**

Female: 1229 Sundin 08

Male: 1343 Lyons 08

Note: 2<sup>nd</sup> largest Pumpkin Grown in Canada in 2009, Pollinator grew new European Record 1410 Meier +5% (Switzerland).**\$20/ seed****1343 Lyons 08**

Female: 1385 Jutras 07

Male: 1470 Wallace 07

Note: Grew 1410 Meier 09, Swiss Pumpkin Record, and 3 others over 1000 lbs first year out!

**\$30/ seed****1229 Sundin 08**

Female: 1263 Pitura 07

Male: 1388 LaRue 07

Note: Grew 1451.5 Sundin, second largest pumpkin in Canada in 2009

**\$30/ seed****1185 Kline 09**

Female: 1385 Jutras 07

Male: 985 Werner 06

Note: Grew 1489.6 Kline 10, 8% Heavy. 2<sup>nd</sup> largest pumpkin grown in Canada in 2010. This seed was part of the 2009 seed package.**\$50/ seed****Proven  
Orange  
Producer****1059.6 Vincent-McGill 09**

Female: 993.6 Vincent-McGill 08

Male: 904 Stelts 06

Note: Howard Dill and Bill Greer Memorial Award winners. **Super orange**, symmetrical pumpkin. Pollinating plant grew new PEC record 1339.5 lb +9%. Germination on this seed is excellent, but the seeds themselves are very ugly with some dark staining. Proven HD award producer**\$30/ seed****Proven  
Orange  
Producer****993.2 Vincent-McGill 08**

Female: 772 Poirier 06

Male: 998 Pukos

Note: Dark red orange and perfectly shaped and 2% heavy, pollinating plant grew 1170 lbs. Howard Dill Award Winner! Proven HD award producer.

**\$30/ seed**Proven Squash Seeds**1132 Vincent-McGill 08 \***

Female: 995 Vincent-McGill 07 \*

Male: 824 Brunst \*

Notes: Grew 1037 Sundin 09\*, Average top 5 variance 11.76% heavy

**\$10.00/ seed****1236 Vincent-McGill 09 \***

Female: 800 Neily 07 \*

Male: 1132 Vincent-McGill 08\*

Notes: **Current World Record Squash**, 9% heavy. Pollinator top 5 average +11.76%**\$30.00/ seed**Promising Seeds Available**1419.4 Bryson 10 DMG**

Female: 985 Werner

Male: 1421 Stelts 2009

Notes: This Pumpkin was disqualified due to a soft spot that developed in the side of the fruit. 21% heavy, weighed 2 weeks after harvest. This pumpkin had a low seed count. The pumpkin on the pollinating plant went down in early September due to damage from a portable heater. It estimated 1476 lbs and still gaining 14 lbs per day!

**\$30.00/ seed****1404.4 Bryson 10**

Female: 1288 Wallace

Male: 1421 Stelts 2009

Notes: this pumpkin won 1<sup>st</sup> at Wellington this year. Taping 377", It was an amazing 26% heavy! This pumpkin only had 60 good seeds. Same pollinator as the 1419.4, see notes above.**\$30.00/ seed****1120 Sundin 09**

Female: 1343 Lyons 08

Male: Self

Note: Very solid pumpkin with no internal cracks. In the Sundin 2010 line up!

**\$10/ seed**

All are subject to availability. We reserve the right to limit quantities on some seeds. To order seeds, please send an e-mail to John Vincent at: [j.vincent@xplornet.ca](mailto:j.vincent@xplornet.ca) or phone: 613-476-0405, requesting your set and/ or any proven seeds you would like. Then await a return e-mail giving you confirmation that your seeds have been reserved for you. At that time you will be given instructions for mailing your cheque or money order, and the total of your purchase, or if you prefer a PayPal invoice will be issued.



## PECPG

C/O John Vincent  
1538 County Rd 15  
RR#2 PICTON, ON  
K0K 2T0  
613-476-0405  
j.vincent@xplornet.ca

### Check out our web site:

[www.pec.on.ca/pumpkinfest/](http://www.pec.on.ca/pumpkinfest/)

## Tips for Beating the Winter Blue's from the PECPG

- 1) Start planning for your next season early.
- 2) Do some research on genetics. Plan the seeds you would like to grow and crosses you would like to make
- 3) Visit some web sites like: [www.bigpumpkins.com](http://www.bigpumpkins.com)
- 4) Send seed requests to growers that you would like to get seeds from. Be sure to include sufficient postage \$ and a self addressed bubble envelope.
- 5) Join two or three good growers clubs for seed and newsletters, the GVGO and the SNGPG are good suggestions ( [www.sngpg.com](http://www.sngpg.com) )
- 6) Plan to attend the International growers seminar in Niagara March. 11th-13th.
- 7) Plan to attend the GVGO spring seminar in April

# GVGO News

GVGO 2010 memberships are due January 1st. Membership continues to be \$25 individual or \$35 family. Membership includes:

- Full Voting Privileges, with eligibility to hold office.
- Entry into club seminars & meetings
- 10% discount on soil analysis from [A&L Canada Labs](http://www.aandl.com) in London, Ontario
- Seed giveaway - (a nice big envelope of seeds)
- 3 newsletters/ year
- Entry into patch tours
- Eligible for the GVGO trophies, awards and prize money.

Go to our membership button on the main page of the web site to sign up on line: [www.gvgo.ca](http://www.gvgo.ca)

### GVGO Seed Raffle is on Now:

The GVGO is offering up a great seed raffle this year!

This year **seeds are sorted in Lots from 1-27**. Each lot has top proven or promising seeds. Buy your tickets, then choose which lots you want your tickets put on, so you stand the best chance to win the seeds you really want.

Please go to the web site to view full raffle details. [www.gvgo.ca](http://www.gvgo.ca)



Purchases can be made until Jan 8<sup>th</sup>, 2011

*(Draw to be held the following Weekend)*

When you purchase your tickets , please indicate which lot you would like your tickets in. You can specify different lots if multiple tickets are purchased.

Ticket Prices: \$10/ticket or \$25/3 tickets

You can mail your membership or raffle ticket purchases to:

The Giant vegetable Growers of Ontario

C/O Kirk Chenier  
1650 4th Line Rd North  
RR#2  
Lakefield, ON  
K0L 2H0