



Sweetpotato Varieties Tolerant to Insect Pest Damage

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Sweet potato is a nutritious root crop that contains significant amounts of fiber, beta carotene, and is an excellent source of vitamin A, vitamin C, Potassium, Folate, and Calcium. Orange-fleshed cultivars are rich in b-carotene and purple-fleshed cultivars are rich in anthocyanins, and both cultivars are important dietary antioxidants. In Hawaii, sweet potatoes can grow year-round and when sweetpotato is managed properly, it has the potential to be one of the more profitable vegetable crops. Profitable production practices include using good propagation material, selecting suitable soil, and following good production practices, including fertility, irrigation, and pest management. One of the methods of pest management is to grow sweetpotato varieties tolerant to pest damage. A sweetpotato varietal trial was conducted to determine the best sweetpotato varieties tolerant to the most important pest in sweetpotato crops: sweetpotato weevil (*Cylas formicarius*), rough sweetpotato weevil (*Blosyrus asellus*), and sweetpotato stemborer (*Omphisa anastomosalis*).

Eight varieties of sweetpotato were grown in Kahului, Maui, and were evaluated for the above pest damages. 'W-390', 'Regal,' and 'Ruddy' had the greatest incidence of unblemished, marketable storage roots of 76%, 74%, and 73%, respectively, significantly greater than those of 'Okinawan', 'WT-320', 'Pampa Culebra', and 'Jonathan'. These results indicate that these three varieties ('W-390', 'Regal,' and 'Ruddy') could be more resistant to pests, such as sweetpotato weevils or stemborer.

Sweetpotato Varieties Evaluated for Insect Damage Tolerance

Variety Name	Country	Flesh Color	Skin Color
Camote Morado	Guatemala	Purple	Dark Red
Jonathan	Peru	Orange	Brown
Pampa Culebra	Peru	Purple-white	Brown
Regal	S. Carolina, USA	Orange	Red
Ruddy	S. Carolina, USA	Orange	Dark Red
Okinawan (TC)	Okinawa, Japan	Purple	White
WT-320	Peru	Light Orange	Red
W-390	S. Carolina, USA	Cream	Red

Sweetpotato Varieties: Colors and Shapes



Sweetpotato Varieties: Colors and Shapes





RUDDY



WT-320



W-390



PAMPA CULEBRA



JONATHAN



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