

## 2003 Piketon Plasticulture Demonstration Trials

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'Chandler' tips were planted on August 19, 2002 and the resulting plugs were planted in double rows 16 inches apart on raised beds (3 beds @ 30') September 12, 2002. Nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium (100 units each) incorporated prior to bed formation. Only one fungicide application was made on April 24, Quadris at 15.4 oz/acre + Captan at 6 lb/acre.

### Results

First harvest occurred May 12, 2003. Final harvest was June 6, 2003 for a 26-day total harvest period.

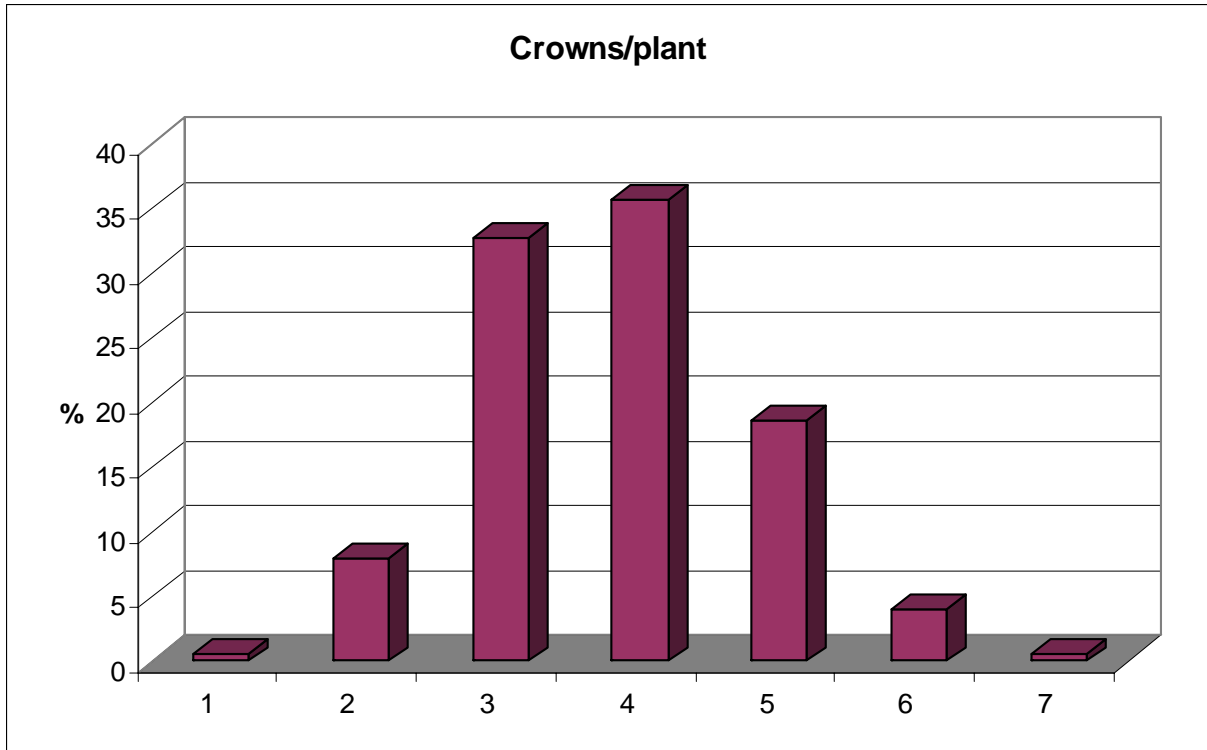
	Marketable yield (pounds)	Culls (pounds)	Diagnosis
May 12, 2003	5.4	4.6	frost damage, poor pollination
May 14, 2003	2.2	1.5	poor pollination
May 16, 2003	2.2	1.7	poor pollination, leather rot
May 18, 2003	4.1	1.6	poor pollination, feeding damage*
May 21, 2003	7.4	Minimal	---
May 22, 2003	2.5	0.5	leather rot, botrytis, feeding damage
May 24	8.7	1.3	feeding damage
May 26, 2003	4.4	.62	feeding damage, leather rot
May 29, 2003	7.7	1.3	feeding damage, leather rot, botrytis
May 31, 2003	2.1	1.3	feeding damage, anthracnose, botrytis
June 4, 2003	3.8	2.6	feeding damage
June 6, 2003	1.3	0.2	feeding damage

\* feeding damage is from slugs, birds and strawberry sap beetle

51.8 pounds marketable (75%)

17.2 pounds cull

69 pounds total



**Discussion:**

We had poor pollination due to a large population of dandelion in the vicinity of the plot. Slugs were a particular problem this Spring because of the excessively wet weather. Three to five crowns per plant appear to be the ideal based on previous work. We achieved that with this planting.