



A demonstration of non-traditional crop production

OMAFRA Specialists:

Jim Todd, Transition Crops

Sean Westerveld, Ginseng and Medicinal Herbs

Melanie Filotas, Specialty Crops IPM

Evan Elford, New Crop Development

Project Goals

- Provide growers with the opportunity to see non-traditional crops in the field
- Gain experience with the challenges of growing these crops
- Develop information packages for our stakeholders



Project Activities

- 36 non-traditional crops were established at the Simcoe Research Station in the spring of 2009
 - An average of two cultivars per crop.
 - Sea buckthorn and Russian dandelion were grown in pots.
- 2 nitrogen response trials were conducted
 - Why do on-farm trials?
 - How are they done?
- Demonstration day was held
 - OMAFRA staff conducted tours of the plots.
 - Information package was distributed to stakeholders.

Crop List

- kohlrabi
- leaf/headed mustards
- Oriental radish
- cilantro/coriander
- perilla
- Oriental lettuce
- celtuce
- amaranth
- artichoke
- coloured carrots
- gobo
- Russian dandelion
- fenugreek
- skullcap
- edamame
- specialty hot peppers
- Asian eggplants
- tomatillo
- specialty basil
- calendula
- edible chrysanthemum
- yard long bean
- lovage
- Rainbow Swiss chard
- goji
- sea buckthorn
- chia
- muskmelon
- Oriental cucumber
- hairy gourd
- bottle gourd
- luffa
- winter gourd
- bitter melon
- Brilliant melon





Amaranth



Artichoke



Calendula



Sea Buckthorn



Rainbow Swiss Chard



Mousemelon



Bitter Melon



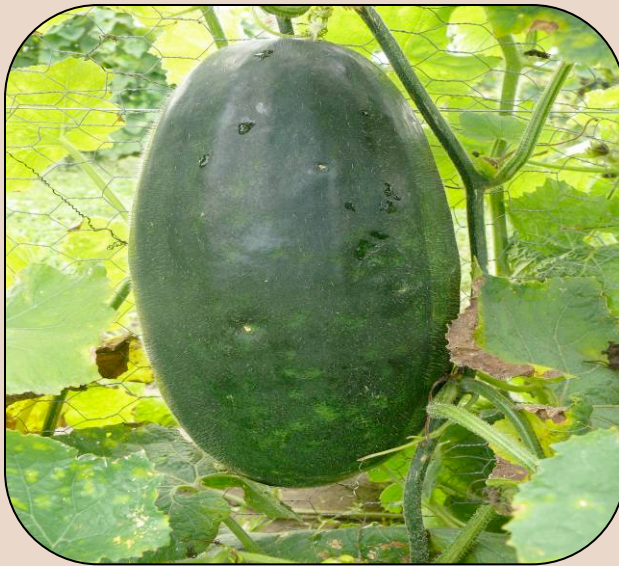
Goji



Edamame



Habanero Pepper



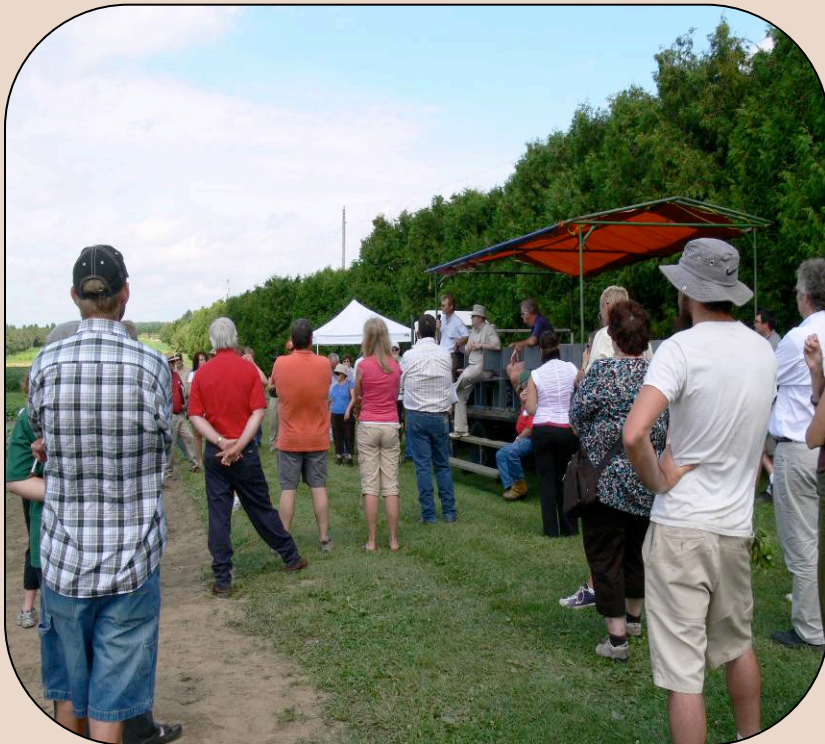
Winter Gourd



Skullcap

Project Outcomes

- 78 registered attendees, 70 information packages distributed
- Crop information used for information sheets that will be posted on OMAFRA's website



Project Sponsors

Demonstration Plots and Day

- Norfolk Soil and Crop Improvement Association
- Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association
- OMAFRA
- University of Guelph
- A&L Canada Laboratories Inc.
- Agrium Inc.