

AAS WINNERS TESTED NATIONALLY & PROVEN LOCALLY®



Each year All-America Selections® introduces new, tested flowers and vegetables that have proven, superior qualities. In 2009 the AAS Winners are three vegetables and one flower. This reflects the trend in gardening towards edibles. According to Garden Writers Foundation surveys, people are interested in growing their own food. There are many reasons to grow edibles. People can grow plants organically and their homegrown food is the most nutritious. The flavor, well, let's just say it cannot be compared to "store bought" produce.



Gardeners have learned to rely on the AAS Winners. Growing the AAS Winners in your garden means you have selected the best flowers or vegetables available. The independent AAS Judges have thoroughly tested each variety for improved traits. The vegetables have been taste-tested to ensure flavor is an important part of the evaluation process.

Look for the red, white, and blue emblem on seed packets, on plant labels and containers in retail stores.

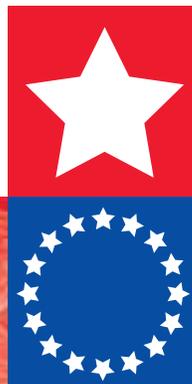
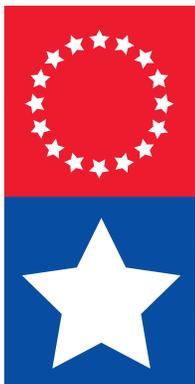
The AAS Website contains easily found facts. Look for AAS Display Garden locations near you, AAS Winner names and descriptions, images and a store locator to find places to purchase AAS Winner plants.

www.aaswinners.com



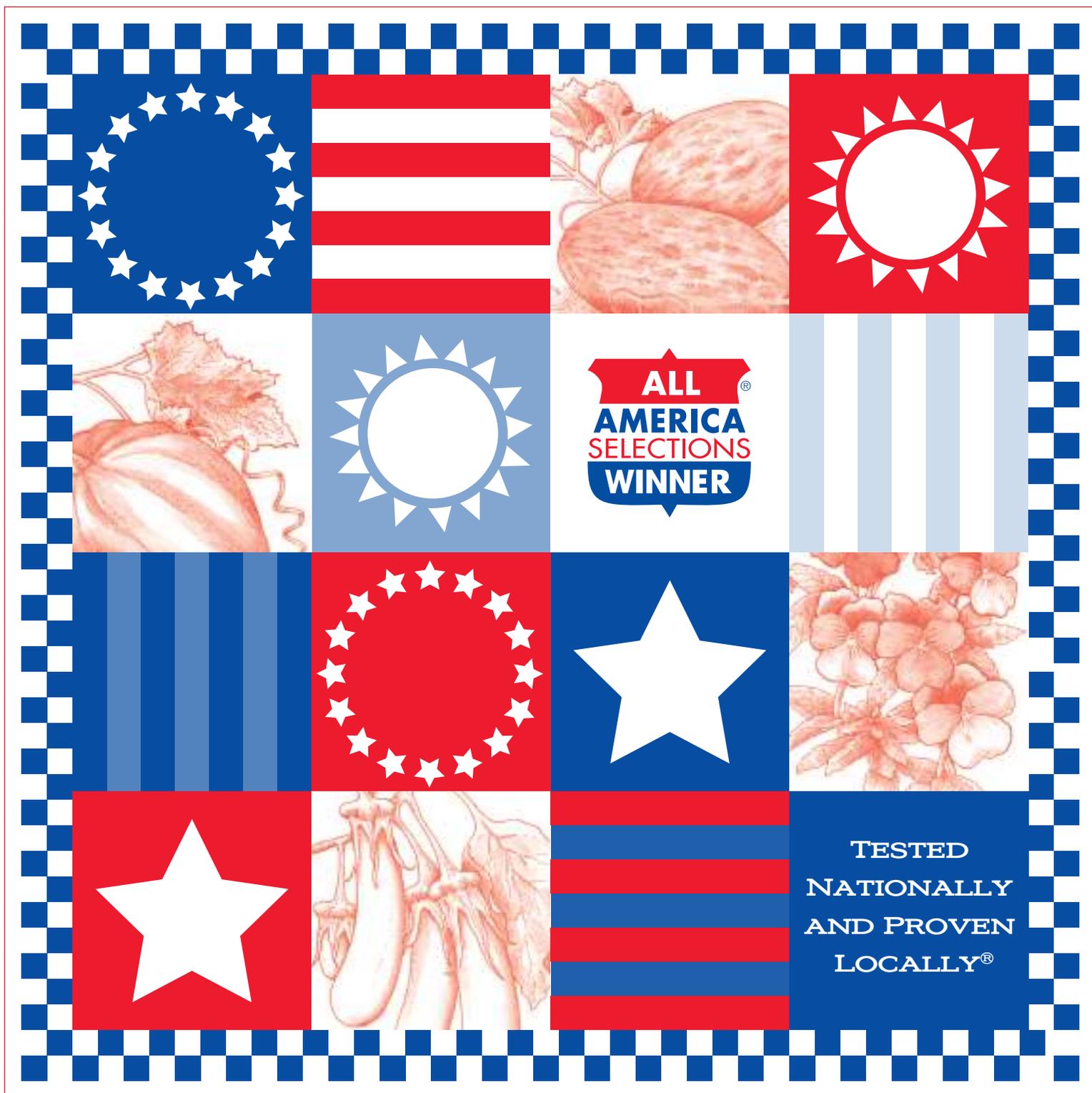
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2009

**ALL-AMERICA SELECTIONS®
FLOWER & VEGETABLE
AWARD WINNERS**





**2009 AAS COOL SEASON BEDDING
PLANT AWARD WINNER**

**VIOLA F1
'RAIN BLUE AND PURPLE'**

This variety creates a spreading pool of cool blue colors. The plants are cold and heat tolerant resulting in flowers throughout the seasons. Viola 'Rain Blue and Purple' will bloom in the south during fall and winter; in the north in the spring and summer. There is always a season of bloom for 'Rain Blue and Purple.' Another appealing trait is that the one and a half inch blooms change color from purple and white to purple and blue as they mature. Few flowers change colors naturally and 'Rain Blue and Purple' is one of them. The plants spread 10 to 14 inches in the garden or container. The trailing habit is perfectly designed for hanging baskets or patio urns. 'Rain Blue and Purple' was bred by Tokita Seed Co. Ltd., Saitama, Japan. Seed and plants of this AAS Winner will be available from your favorite retailer.



2009 AAS VEGETABLE WINNER

**SQUASH F1
'HONEY BEAR'**

'Honey Bear' acorn squash was bred to be baked and served in the half shell. The honey in 'Honey Bear' refers to the sweet squash flavor when cooked. In addition to flavor, there are three outstanding qualities; the compact plant, high yield, and tolerance to powdery mildew. The bushy, compact plant will reach 2 to 3 feet tall and spread 4 to 5 feet without vines. The dark green acorn squash weighs about a pound, which is a perfect size for sharing between two people. The plant produces 3 to 5 fruit per bush. The yield is high due to the powdery mildew tolerance. At the end of the season many acorn squash plants succumb to the mildew and fruit on the plant never matures. 'Honey Bear' continues to bear fruit throughout the growing season. From sowing seed in the garden until the harvest of the first squash will be about 100 days. 'Honey Bear' was bred at the University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH.



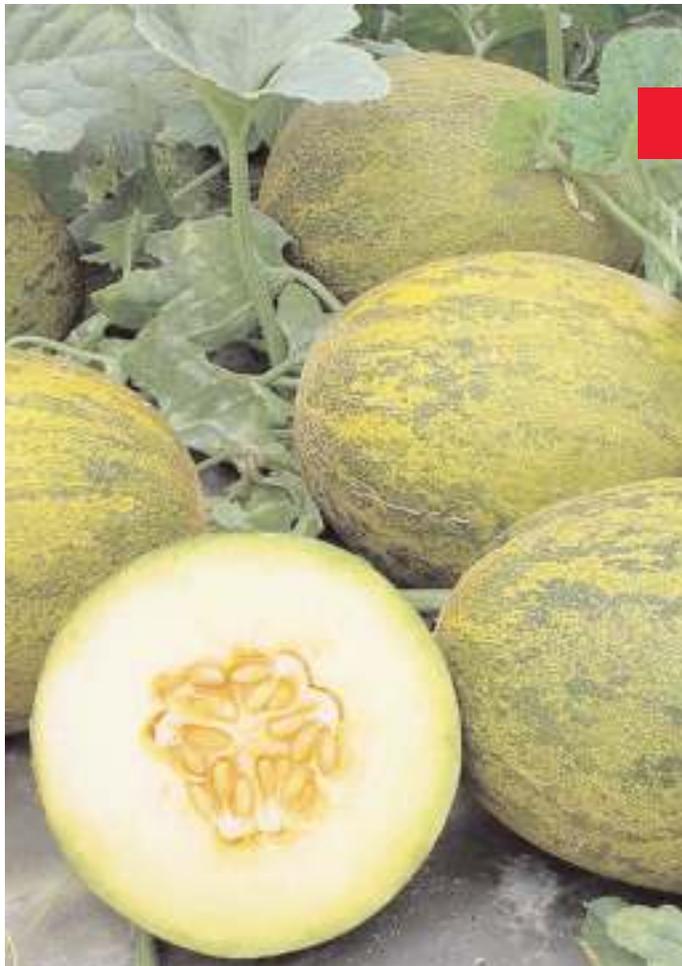


2009 AAS VEGETABLE WINNER



EGGPLANT F1 'GRETEL'

The earliest white eggplant perfectly describes 'Gretel.' Any gardener will agree, the earlier the better; since waiting for the best tasting, most nutritious food from our gardens is not easy. The glossy white mini-fruit are produced in clusters and can be harvested in 55 days depending upon growing conditions. Like all eggplants, 'Gretel' will grow rapidly under warm temperatures, over 55°F day and night temperature. The pure white fruit are sweet with tender skin even if they mature beyond the ideal fruit size of 3 to 4 inches. This trait means gardeners have a longer timeline to harvest fruit. 'Gretel' plants are relatively small, about 3 feet wide and tall. Since the plant is small it is adaptable to the popular trend of growing edibles in containers. It is recommended to use a rather large container about 16 inches deep. This AAS Winner was bred by Seminis Vegetable Seeds, Oxnard, CA.



2009 AAS VEGETABLE WINNER



MELON F1 'LAMBKIN'

The most important trait of this melon is the flavor. This is the reason to invest your time to grow 'Lambkin' in your garden. The oval shaped melon weighs between 2 and 4 pounds with a thin rind surrounding sweet, aromatic, white, juicy flesh. Another advantage is the earliness. Most other gourmet melons of this type mature much later than the 65 to 75 days of 'Lambkin.' Because of the early harvest, the vigorous vines can produce more melons. This results in more melons to share with close friends. It is classified as a Piel de Sapo melon a. k. a. Christmas type. The yellow melon skin with green mottling is unique and named, Piel de Sapo. As a Christmas melon, 'Lambkin' can be stored longer than other melons. They should be stored in a cool place such as a refrigerator. 'Lambkin' was bred by Known-You Seed Co. Ltd., Kaohsiung, Taiwan. Seed and plants of 'Lambkin' will be available in retail stores.

