Making the correct variety choice or choices each year is the cornerstone of any successful vegetable industry. The University of Florida/Southwest Florida Research and Education Center's variety testing program provides unbiased information about the adaptability and performance of varieties in the state's diverse environments, allowing you to make informed decisions.

Tomato trials have been conducted since 2006 on varieties resistant to tomato yellow leaf curl virus (TYLCV) and since 2009 on varieties resistant to Fusarium crown rot. The testing program provided recommendation under low and high TYLCV pressure.

Although the trials demonstrated that TYLCV can be managed with resistant varieties, the lack of consistent fruit quality was one reason why many of the state's tomato growers haven't adopted them. On the other hand, the industry has widely adopted Fusarium crown rot-resistant varieties.

**Pepper varieties resist bacterial spot**

Bell pepper yields have increased dramatically recently due to continued introduction of new varieties resistant to bacterial spot. Losses from this disease can be attributed to defoliation and spotting or rottting of fruit.

Ten races of *Xanthomonas euvesicatoria* have been identified worldwide. Over the years, genes resistant to various races of *X. euvesicatoria* have been identified and introduced into commercial bell pepper varieties.

Variety trials demonstrate that cultivars containing the added resistance to races 4, 5 and/or 6 reduced bacterial spot infection rates and increased yields compared with varieties with only resistance to bacterial spot races 1, 2 and 3 under natural disease pressure.

**Snap bean yield, color rank high**

Florida ranks first nationally in production, acreage and total fresh market value of snap beans. Most of the state's snap beans are grown for the fresh market.

Preliminary results of a variety trial conducted during the 2010 winter with 13 varieties in two locations showed yield and color were the most important attributes for Florida bean growers.

View the results of these trials as well as others on the SWREC's vegetable testing website, http://bit.ly/pWX6tg.

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