

Minnie's Apache Hubbard - EX2

Native Seed SEARCH Gardener Network - Darrol Shillingburg - Grower - Las Cruces, New Mexico - 2005

Catalog No/Crop name EX2 - Minnie's Apache Hubbard

Date of planting: June 22, 2005

Date transplanted into garden (if applicable): NA

Date of 1st germination: June 27, 2005

No. seeds planted: 16

No. seeds germinated (date): 12 - (7/08/05)

Did the crop receive full sun, partial sun, or full shade? full sun

Date to first male flower(s): 7/28/05

Date to first female flower(s): 7/25/05

Date first fruit produced: not recorded

Date of harvest: 10/05/2005

Total number of fruit harvested? Four from 12 plants

Average weight of fruit? About 3 lbs

Do you consider this a high, medium or low yielding plant? For a squash it seems very low yielding, however it was companion planted in a bed with corn - which may have influenced its fruit production even though the plants showed no signs of nutrient stress.

What color is the rind? Blue green Stripes or splotches? If so, what color? Light greenish yellow splotches. None of the four fruits turned orange either on the vine or in storage

What color is the meat? Pale yellow orange. Is it stringy? Yes

How does the fruit taste? Is it juicy, meaty, pithy, etc? It is stringy-pithy and surprisingly low in sugar content. Will probable make soup from them.

Did you notice pollinators among the flowers (bees, beetles, other insects - please list insect names if you know them): honey bees seemed to eat and sleep in the flowers -also visited by bumble bees and other smaller native bees and a few beetles

Were the plants subject to any unusual or particularly harsh weather (hail, hard rain, early frost or freezing etc.)? When? How did they fare? The plants received a couple of heavy rains (1"/hr), no hail or unusual weather.

Were there any problems with disease, fungus, insects, or other pests? How did plants respond? Did you use anything to treat the problem? How well did it work?

Squash Bugs - one pair showed up 7/24/0, removed multiple clusters of eggs from one plant on 7/25/05 and captured a pair in copulation on the ground under the plant. There was no other squash planted in the garden prior to planting and no other squash bugs. Planted very late this year as part of a long-term squash bug control strategy.

The plants succumbed fairly quickly to powdery mildew, but by then the fruit were fully grown and no new fruit was being set. One spraying with diluted milk (1-10 with water) had very little impact on the powdery mildew, nor did a second spraying with diluted milk and baking soda.

Next year I will start the plants earlier in the year, which will provide a longer growing period before the powdery mildew season. I would not interplant it with corn, which may have reduced the tendency to set fruit. Some of the plants just never set female flowers and fruit, although male blossoms were abundant.

I would not expect the squash that I grew to win any awards - so something is amiss, and I don't know what.

Darrol Shillingburg
Las Cruces, NM 88007
2005 growing season



Germination - 7/01/05



Young Plant - 7/15/05



Squash/Corn Bed - 8/05/05



First Female Blossom - 7/24/05

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Additional Photographs - EX2 - Minnie's Apache Hubbard



Measured fruit



Female Blossom - 8/02/05



Blossom, leaf and fruit



First male Blossom - 7/28/05

Squash/Corn bed - 9/30/05



Mature fruit - 8/17/05



Small late fruit -11/10/05

