

## Vermont Vegetable and Berry News    October 6, 2010

---

---

### REPORTS FROM THE FIELD

(East Montpelier) The warm dry fall has come to an end; plenty of tropical rain and frosts coming soon. Farm is looking good. Trying to figure out how I did it without a tractor for the last few years. Outside fields are replanted and for the most part looking quite good. Cover crops are in and doing well. Greenhouses are almost flipped and replanted for winter salad and spinach. Looking forward to winter and the change of pace. Plenty of changes to consider and planning to do for next year. All in all a good season. As always a few things were a complete flop and a few things were the best yields I have ever had. Hope everyone finishes up well.

(Fair Haven)

(Royalton) Finally got the late blight in the tomatoes. We escaped the frost on October 2nd, so our yellow beans are still going, as are the cherry tomatoes in the hoop house. Time to get the last of the winter squash in. G

(Argyle, NY) After the drought, we got 6" of rain, but it was over a 24 hour period and did little damage and overall was great. Cover crops are coming up and growing nicely (mostly rye and clover) and we are starting to harvest and store all field crops. Winter squash is in. We started harvesting sweet potatoes today from our 30 x 144 tunnel; we had put surplus slips from the field planting in there on Biotello in double rows. The field ones (variety Covington) are gorgeous with super yields (one bushel every 3 feet) and we'll have numbers to compare to the tunnel sweet potatoes next report. At least something liked the hot weather!

The first seeding of spinach is done in the high tunnel, we are trialing 8 varieties this winter, seeds compliments of High Mowing and Johnny s. We traveled to Maine and toured Johnny's trial fields, so are anxious to try some of their new and exciting greens that were seen. Nice to have insects mostly gone and few diseases. Septoria and Alternaria will get some research over the winter for possible controls for 2011 as they were prevalent on certain crops late in the season. Finished up sweet corn and now are harvesting leeks. Lots of other fall crops coming on, but the tomatoes are still going

From Food and Drug Administration, Guide to Minimizing Microbial Food Safety Hazards for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables: Fresh fruits and vegetables that have been partially or completely submerged in flood water, or that might have come in contact with contaminated water, are not safe to consume. There is a high health risk of developing disease from consuming these products. Flood water may be