



TRIPLOID
WATERMELON



SAKATA®



POLLINATION
MASTER GUIDE

Find Your Perfect **POLLENIZER**



WILD CARD and WILD CARD PLUS*

- Non-harvestable; early and extended flowering period for maximum production
- Thin vines spread the male flowers throughout the crop
- Explosive tiger-stripe rind with yellow flesh
- Best choice for seedless varieties that have vigorous vines, like Charismatic and Unbridled
- Use Wild Card Plus with Belmont for best fruit set and to maintain Fusarium resistance

ACE and ACE PLUS*

- Non-harvestable; super early pollen source for early fruit set
- Explosive gray fruit with red flesh
- Use Ace Plus to hit an early market window, or consider blending with another Sakata pollenizer

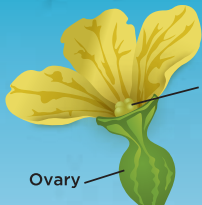
SSX8585

- Harvestable Allsweet-type selected for its performance as a pollenizer
- Resistant to Fon 1 and Co 1
- Consider a blend with Wild Card Plus or Ace Plus to customize the amount of SSX8585 you need

*Plus indicates intermediate resistance (IR) to Fusarium race 1 (Fon 1) and Anthracnose race 1 (Co 1)

FLOWER

Identification



Stigma

Ovary

FEMALE

Easily identified by the ovary, which is the developing fruit, below the flower.

Stamen



MALE

Have a furling stamen in the center of the flower that is larger than the female stigma.

A watermelon plant is a cucurbit, many of which have both male and female flowers. Sticky watermelon pollen is not windblown, thus requiring insects to carry pollen from male flowers to female flowers for successful pollination.

Bees play a critical role in triploid watermelon pollination. Multiple types of bees act as pollinators for watermelons including managed honey bees and bumble bees, as well as wild, native bees, each with their own advantages.



TOP CROPS

PLAN YOUR FIELD

Our new generation of high-yielding, seedless watermelon offers triple the benefit with the winning features of early or mid maturity, firm flesh and delicious flavor.



Step 1 Choose a Triploid

Our Triple Crown Watermelons offer reliable performance in various growing regions.

- **Charismatic** (early maturing)
- **Secretariat** (early maturing)
- **Unbridled** (mid-late maturing)
- **Kingman** (mid-maturing)

Get Started with **EARLY** SUCCESS

PRE PAIR

CHOOSE PAIRED VARIETIES

To take advantage of the early genetics Sakata has to offer, it is essential to pair with the right pollinizer, one selected for its ability to pollinate early varieties. Anything less will mean that your seedless crop may not reach its full potential. Consider a combo of our Allsweet, SSX8585, and one of our non-harvestable pollinizers.

Step 2 Pair with Pollinizer

A healthy pollinizer means a healthier seedless crop. We recommend:

- Non-harvestable**
- Wild Card
 - Wild Card Plus
 - Ace
 - Ace Plus
- Harvestable**
- SSX8585

Do you need early maturity in your growing program? Are you trying to hit an early market, or get your watermelons harvested before the price drops? Sakata is well known for early genetics and we can help!

MAKE a MATCH

PERFECT POLLINATION

The full-flowering period of both the seedless plants and the pollinizer plants must match to ensure maximum amount of viable pollen.

Step 3 Plan your Pollination Timing

3 TO 4
WEEKS
is a typical
full-flowering period.

3 TO 1
RATIO
of seedless triploids
to pollinizer
diploids.

BRING the BEEES

POLLINATORS ARE KEY

The timing of bees is critical! To take advantage of earlier flowering, you may need to bring in your bees earlier than is typical for other watermelon varieties.

Step 4 Get Those Bees Buzzing

1000
GRAINS
of pollen are
needed for each
seedless female
flower.
This is equal to
16-24
bee visits per
flower.



Watermelons TRENDING



\$578.8

MILLION
in US watermelon
sales in 2016.

Top Crop

Watermelon is one of the top three crops produced in the US, along with onions and head lettuce.



76%

of watermelons
CONSUMED
domestically
come from
US growers.

2003

2014

51% TO 85%

SEEDLESS
watermelons
market share is on
the RISE.

16 of watermelon
per person are
consumed
annually in the
POUNDS US.

SAKATA®

408-778-7758
vegetables@sakata.com
SakataVegetables.com

