TRIPLOID WATERMELON

SAKATA®

POLLINATION POCKET 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*

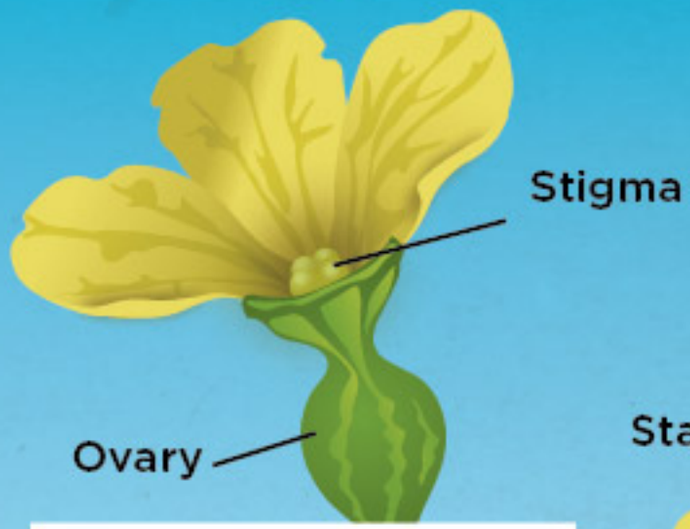
- Non-harvestable; super early pollen source for early fruit set
- Explosive gray fruit with red flesh
- Use Ace Plus to hit an early market window, or consider blending with another Sakata pollenizer

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

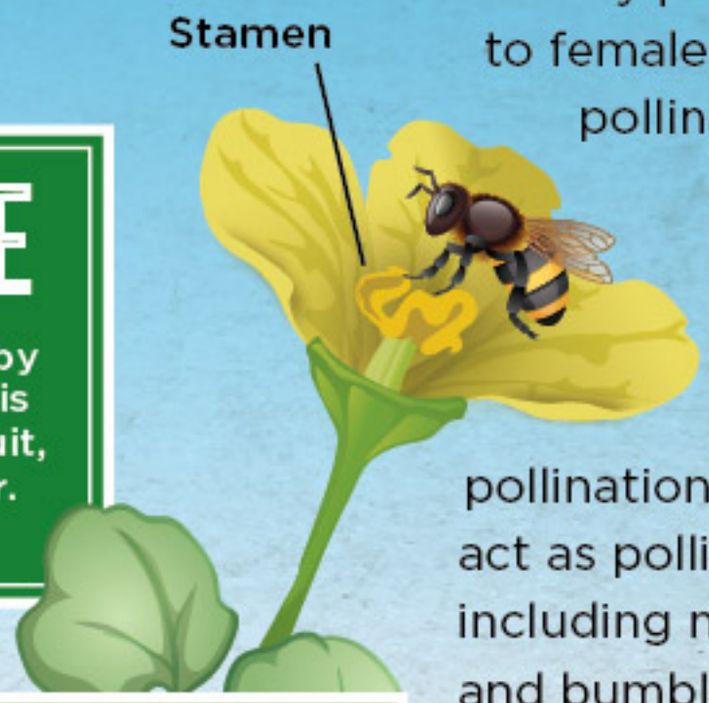
***Plus indicates intermediate resistance (IR) to Fusarium race 1 (Fon 1) and Anthracnose race 1 (Co 1)**

FLOWER Identification



FEMALE

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



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.

Get Started with EARLY SUCCESS

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!

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 triploid watermelons offer reliable performance in various growing regions.

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

PRE PAIR

CHOOSE PAIRED VARIETIES

To take advantage of the early genetics Sakata has to offer, it is essential to pair with the right pollenizer, 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 pollenizers.

Step 2
Pair with Pollenizer

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

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

Harvestable
- **SSX8585**

MAKE a MATCH

PERFECT POLLINATION

The full-flowering period of both the seedless plants and the pollenizer 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 pollenizer diploids.

BRING the BEES

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.

51% TO 85%
SEEDLESS watermelons market share is on the RISE.

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

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