



## SET THE TABLE FROM YOUR GARDEN

September 2016

### Last Taste Of Summer



*Tricolor Zucchini*

The last long hot days of summer's end are special but always hectic. The results of all our labors are ready for daily harvesting, and often the abundance of fresh ripe vegetables and leafy herbs can threaten to overwhelm our kitchen counters and pantries. It's the season for jokes about giant zucchinis, and the thoughts that would have been just dreams in April or May (like too many tomatoes or an overabundance of ripe melons) are now a reality! [Read More](#)



Left to right: *"Three Flavor Mix" Melons*, *"Italian" Arugula*, *"San Marzano" Tomatoes*, *"Little Prince" Eggplant*

### September In The Trial Garden

Summer is going out with a bang here in our central California trial garden as temperatures spiked to 100 degrees the last days of the month. After a relatively cool summer, plants haven't had a chance to acclimate to this heat. We took quick precautions with the still producing tomato and pepper plants to avoid sun scald. We already use row covers extensively in the garden to keep insects out, for early and late season frost protection, and now for shade from extreme temperatures. We just drape the covers over the tomato and pepper plants so the ripening fruit does not burn.



*Protecting tomatoes from sun scald using white row covers*



*Trial Sweet Peppers*

Late summer is our peak harvest for an amazing variety of peppers the season. "Patrizio" from Germany has produced the largest sweet, red bell peppers we've ever seen, with thick walls and very crisp, sweet juicy flesh. Another awesome sweet red pepper, "Rafaela" from the Czech Republic is long and tapered and wonderful fresh or for grilling. We also grew our own Renee's Garden *"Yummy Bells,"* orange snacking peppers, introduced a few years back. These tidy little plants are amazingly productive and their cute orange peppers make sweet and healthy treats.

We have at long last achieved celery success! We have found a very nice variety from the Czech Republic that is easy to grow, adaptable, and holds well in the garden. Growing good celery is not an easy feat, especially when you are working with extremely sandy soil like ours. Celery wants a very nitrogen rich soil with consistent watering, but if you can work to provide such growing conditions, you will be rewarded with very beautiful, great tasting, and plentiful celery stalks.



*Celery*



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#### Recipe Of The Month



#### *Marinated Melon with Honey Ginger Cream*

A delightful treat and a lovely way to use this luscious fruit.

