This is a list of varieties we have acquired and propagate. The information here is under constant revision. If you have important information to add about sugar cane varieties I would love to hear from you. – Green Planet Farm ©2013-2017 palmtreeluke@gmail.com

‘Asian Black’ – also noted as var. ‘badila.’ This cane came to me from cuttings originating in China, but it is found throughout Southeast Asia. A dark black cane with white powdered stripes below each node. It can appear dark purple once exposed to a lot of sun. This is a short stocky variety with short 1-2 inch internodes. It has a big diameter up to 2” and usually has to be split to fit through the juicer. Easy to peel and makes a nice juice that’s darker in color. A great heirloom cane that is not common in the States.

‘Home Green’ – Also called ‘Homeowner green’, or just ‘green.’ There are two drastically different varieties floating around. One is an ‘improved green’ that has longer barrel length between internodes and grows strong and straight. The other green seems to constrict at the internodes and then balloon out between each internode. Each type of cane when fully mature will get red bluses of red and orange and brown spots that look like a sunset. The canes on each are soft and easy to juice and peel. The juice is greener in color than other types. However, this variety seems to have the worst fiberglass
like prickly hairs on the leaf sheath and base of the leaves that can leave your hands in pain and bleeding if care is not taken when dealing with this variety. The “improved home green’ is one of the best for juicing as it has less internodes and more room for juice! Image Left: comparing two forms of ‘green.’ Image right: showing color variations in ‘improved home green.’

‘Ribbon’ – Ribbon cane is an old heirloom from the southern states. It gets its name from the stripes of red/purple and green on the internodes. Or maybe it was so good it won a blue ribbon in a contest? I have seen and grow multiple varieties of ribbon cane. One of them I call ‘Purple Ribbon’ has a waxy powder coating on internodes. It makes really good cane syrup and is soft and easy to chew also. It is probably 1 degree Fahrenheit hardier than ‘Home Green’ as witnessed in a November freeze in North
Florida. It is a great variety for chewing and syrup making. This type is more of a vigorous grower compared to my other Garnet and Gold Ribbon Cane.

Another type of Ribbon Cane I acquired in South Florida at an old nursery on Pine Island FL. I call it ‘Garnet and Gold Ribbon Cane’. Younger immature cane is green and red but once it matures and ages in the sun the colors of the mature stripes are garnet and gold. It isn’t a very strong growing cane, return from stuble very poorly. This is probably closer to the true old heirloom and seems like it is never thriving compared to the others.
‘Florida Red’ – also called Georgia Red. It’s a southern favorite; it has a dark red coloring. It has fairly thin/slender culms compared to other varieties. It sometimes has a purplish coloring. It has a vibrant green band just above each node. It grows upward with alternating nodes that slightly go in opposite directions that give it a bent elbow look when you look along the stick of cane. Makes for a great juicing cane for syrup and is easy to peel and chew.
'YUE TANG’ – An Asian Heirloom found growing in the North Florida Quincy, FL IFAS research station. I do not know much about it. It has a waxy powdery white stalk and is a good grower. It has a fat barrel diameter up to about 2” that grows straight and tall. It doesn’t have a bad habit of falling over either! It does seem to have the prickly hair along the leaf sheaths that can cause skin irritation, similar to that of HOME GREEN. Washed vs. Unwashed:

‘LA GREEN’ – Louisiana Green. It was sent to me by a southern Louisiana cane grower. I was expecting it to turn out like the Home green I grow but it is in fact a unique variety. It grows straight and true with a much more golden yellow tone to the cane. Has a white waxy band below each bud. And get a dark red blush as it matures. Makes a beautiful juice and doesn’t have the prickly hairs along the leaf sheaths. Leaves are less broad and thinner than the Home Green.