

GVGO  
4376 Hwy 35 N  
Cameron, ON K0M 1G0  
[www.gvgo.ca](http://www.gvgo.ca)  
[gvgo@i-zoom.net](mailto:gvgo@i-zoom.net)

# GROWERS VINE

Port Elgin Pumpkinfest  
September 29-30, 2012  
[www.pumpkinfest.org](http://www.pumpkinfest.org)  
[info@pumpkinfest.org](mailto:info@pumpkinfest.org)  
1-800-387-3456

Brought to you by Port Elgin Pumpkinfest and the GVGO

## PRESIDENT'S SUMMER MESSAGE By Phil Joynson

Greetings fellow GVGO members. As you may or may not know Kirk Chenier has stepped down as GVGO president after several successful years at the helm. He's going to concentrate on family, growing giant veggies and getting his health back to 100%. Thanks go out to Kirk and his family for all their time and effort devoted to the GVGO. Kirk has agreed to help the club out with purchasing and awards.

Who could possibly fill the president's shoes you may well ask? Well we couldn't find one person to fill that role so we're going with two people. Russ Landry will be the official head of the club and Phil Joynson (myself) will take care of the day to day things that keep the club ticking over. That's right, it take two people to fill Kirk's shoes! It's been a busy time for Russ and me so far with things in our personal life. Russ is in the middle of a move (I'm sure growing conditions will be his major factor in pick a new home!) and I have had a string of unforeseen events occurring

as well as growing a full slate of veggies. The bottom line here is "Don't count on many changes in how things are run until after the growing season ends." Russ and I have only had one face to face discussion and we planned to rule with an iron fist...also a wooden leg, tin ear, rubber arm, lead foot, iron lung, and of course a cast iron stomach. This was quickly dismissed as we decided we both need to lose weight. So in a nut shell things will run as usual for awhile.

The annual spring GVGO seminar was quite a success. Thanks go out to the Vincent family for running this year's event and to the volunteers who made this happen. Congratulations go out to all the category winners.

To those unable to attend we discussed some matters that will affect the club. Featured vegetable of the year for 2012 is the tomato. We have also decided to expand our recognized vegetable categories to include field pumpkins. Awards will be given out for them as well the Master Growers level has been set at

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140 lbs. It was also decided to keep the GVGO seed raffle going for at least one more year, as well as the primo seed sale.

The annual club patch tour will be on August 11<sup>th</sup> in the Erin/Kitchener area. (Details in the newsletter). As you know there seems to be a curse on the brave growers that agree to step up and have their gardens on the tour. This year we set a new record of misfortune. Grower after grower have dropped from the tour due to hail, disease, SVB's, plague of toads etc. This has made it very hard to get a schedule fixed for the newsletter.... hence the delay. Unfortunately we're down to three gardens but they have produced good fruit in the past. Thanks go out to Pat Watson, John Nieuwenhoff and Conrad Wheildon for sticking with this and trying to make it run smoothly. They may need hair transplants as I'm sure they must be pulling their hair out by now.

In closing I wish you folks the best year ever in the patch and I hope to meet up with as many people as possible at the patch tour or at the various weigh-offs in the fall. If you have an issue or concern or if you want to discuss a brilliant idea to help the club, feel free to contact Russ or myself. The club is only as strong as the membership and we need you guys to keep us strong and to grow.



*Perhaps Jones should have never planted on a hill...*



### Top 10 Best Things about Being a New GVGO President

By Phil Joynson

10. Having a personal Secretary! Russ's is named Cindi. Mine is named Bruce.
9. Three Martini business lunches.
8. Hazing... Kirk and Phil told me I'd get used to walking in high heels and wearing a dress after a few weeks and they were right.
7. Free Toronto professional sports team play-off tickets. (This has never actually come up)
6. Free assortment of President's Choice products.
5. Full access to the Presidential library. (OK, it's more of a magazine collection).
4. Fishing in the Presidential palace's (it's a tent) moat (it's a canal) is great!
3. Full use of the GVGO executive washroom. (I actually had to dig the honey pit).
2. I get to write the GVGO club anthem! (What rhymes with orange?)
1. My patch is now considered a sovereign state!

# 2012 Spring Seminar and GVGO award winners







**PORT ELGIN PUMPKINFEST  
UPDATE**

**By Sally Hunt**

What a hot and dry summer is it up here! Of course, the tourists love it but I'm not so sure about the gardeners. I hope everyone's patches are holding up okay.

Again, we've had some staff changes around Port Elgin Pumpkinfest as I have retired to a once-weekly consulting position. Caroline Rohner-Young has been hired to fulfill most of my roles as Event Coordinator, such as securing sponsorship, working with the media and arranging all logistical aspects of the festival. I will still be dealing with "Grower Relations" and you will see much more of my smiling face in the weigh-off tent this year. Joanne Robbins (past Event Coordinator and General Manager of the Chamber of Commerce), who most of you know as the lady who keeps the weigh-off running smoothly is expecting her first grandbaby in mid-September. She has elected to travel to British Columbia for this special event so I will be taking her place in the tent at the 2012 festival.

Heather Lorenz (vendors and volunteers) and Lacey Boyd (entertainment and special events) remain support staff to Caroline so I am very confident that the festival has been passed on to a very competent

team. As well as staff, the over 200 volunteers are again in place to ensure Port Elgin Pumpkinfest 2012 is another successful event for the record books.



As I may have mentioned in the Spring Newsletter, with the date change and the staff change, we chose a marketing theme of "Changing Seasons". To never again conflict with the Canadian Thanksgiving weekend or the Woodbridge Fair, we have chosen to move the festival to "The Weekend BEFORE Thanksgiving". This means that the festival will actually take place in September this year – the first time after 25 years!

Remember, that the giant tomato is our featured vegetable this year so the red in the poster and ad campaign serves a dual purpose.

This year's prize structure will appear later in this newsletter and I hope to make it out to the

Patch Tour on August 11<sup>th</sup> to see some old friends and new. Details on the tour will also follow later in this document.

Until September 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>, Good luck Growing and we hope to see a lot of you at the scales with a personal best and maybe my wish of another World Record falling at Port Elgin Pumpkinfest 2012 will come true again!

**SOUTHERN ONTARIO NEWS**

**by Pat Watson**

As I sit down to write my first article for the news letter in my new official position as an Area Rep in the GVGO, I have to start by brushing off the dirt and washing a bit since I have been crawling around on my hands and knees in the patch all day burying vines and weeding as I go. It is early July and the plants are growing fast and furious in the heat we have had this last week. I was out early this morning in my boxers pollinating what I hope to be future contenders at one of the great weigh offs coming up this fall. (My boxers are good luck).

The weather has been a mixed bag this spring, but on the whole, not bad in Southwestern Ontario. We had a bit of cool weather earlier in June but the heat we have now is helping the plants to catch up. I can't complain, so far I have dodged

the hail and high wind storms others have experienced and my plants are doing okay except for some heat damage on the newer leaves. I will be installing shade cloth next season for sure. My guess is the use of shade cloth will be essential in order to keep the plants healthy enough to compete with the heavy hitters at the scales in the fall.

I would like to say thanks to Art Johnston and John Butler for their past time and service on the GVGO executive. As many of you already know they have stepped down. As far as I know, they are both still committed to growing giant veggies but time and family commitments sometime need to come first. I will go out on a limb and say I wouldn't be surprised if John is willing to take another position on the GVGO executive at some point in the future when the time is right. No pressure John....take your time...lol.

Karen & I hosted the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual unofficial GVGO barbecue on Saturday June 2<sup>nd</sup>. We had Mike & Shiela McAvity, John & Vickie Butler, Dave & Shannon McQuay, and Fred Hain, along with my wife Karen and me in attendance. The weather was cold and windy but thankfully the rain held off until shortly after everyone left around 9pm. It's always great to hear the stories and pick up some new tips. Next year for the BBQ I might do some phoning around or mail invites (not sure yet). It might be nice to try and reach some of the other members

together who don't visit the web site regularly. I spoke to Harry Willemse on the phone earlier this spring but I forgot to mention the BBQ. We had a nice chat about the old Sarnia weigh off and his involvement in that. It was nice to hear he is still growing and supporting 4H although he mentioned he was taking this year off growing pumpkins. The GVGO supplied him with an oversized seed pack so he had enough for his growers ☺.

The weigh offs are just around the corner and I would like to mention the Erin Fall Fair weigh off being held on Thanksgiving weekend. This weigh off is known as "Ontario's Preview to the Royal" and is the first giant vegetable weigh off in Canada to be recognized by the International Giant Vegetable Growers Association (IGVGA). The Erin weigh off will be following the European Giant Vegetable Growers Association rules which is the standard adopted by the IGVGA and accepted by Guinness. Congratulations goes out to the 161<sup>st</sup> Erin Fall Fair for breaking new ground in the Canadian giant vegetable weigh off scene.

The Blue Water Growers and Throwers event will be held on September 22, the weekend before Port Elgin. This is no average weigh off folks, don't worry if you don't have a Pumpkin, Squash, Tomato or Long Gourd just come for the fun and watch the pumpkins and potatoes fly. This event is

open to the public free of charge. We have a trebuchet, compressed air pumpkin cannon and lots of spud guns, all shooting at targets in the river. Last year the compressed air cannon launched pumpkins over 1000 feet. Mike Carol and his trebuchet want to reclaim the distance title this year so stay back! We are also hoping to see the first 1000lb+ pumpkin weighed at this event and I want everyone to know that I am unbeatable this year ...lol. The local radio station will be on site giving live updates.

Anyone wanting more information on this event is encouraged to email Mike DeMars [mdemars@kent.net](mailto:mdemars@kent.net)

Mike DeMars and I are working on the new GVGO banners. Currently, we are in the process of resolving a few image quality issues. The banners are 4' X 8' and when we enlarge some of the photos to banner size the image gets distorted or blurry. Unfortunately we won't be able to use some of the older photos due to lower resolution. The good news is most of the photos are fine so we should have this problem resolved shortly and the new banners will be ready for the patch tour in August.

In closing I want to wish all GVGO members good health, happiness and success in the garden.

Cheers,

Pat Watson

**NEWS FROM THE EAST  
COAST**  
by Dawn Northrup

Another season is upon us, and the Maritimes were out of the gates running this year with an early spring! The weather has been exceptionally dry with very little rain. In June the weather turned colder with risk of frost for many areas! The storm clouds arrived the later part of June dumping Moncton with 40mm of rain and one spot in Nova Scotia got a whopping 100mm of rain!

The cucumber beetles arrived in mass storms in early June.

The pumpkin plants are chugging right along. Early pollinations were possible this year due to our early spring!

I wish all pumpkin growers the best of luck this season. I hope you get a new personal best!

Dawn

**WESTERN REPORT**  
by Don Crews

Summer is here again and with it our hopes of future pumpkin greatness. Things have started well as we have managed to dodge all early frosts and last year's monsoon rains are only memories. May and June have brought normal temps and a fair bit of sun, good for getting a head start. Plants are slightly ahead of last year.

I'm growing three main pumpkin plants, the 1634 Werner, 1244.5 Rea, and my 1081. The 1081 was put in my greenhouse and made such fantastic early growth that I had to pollinate on June 9 or risk having fruit very far down the main vine. I have yet to get a solid fruit out of the greenhouse but this one looks good. It seems to be taking after its dad, the 1725 Harp, with its pale colour.



The greenhouse plants grow large leaves because of the slightly lower light level caused by my woven poly cover. In the future I may experiment by removing alternate leaves from

the secondary vines to perhaps curb the tendency of the leaves to compete with each other by growing taller. The 1244.5 Rea started slow but after I moistened the soil some, it took off. (I'm always reluctant to over water young plants before fruit set because we need those roots to go down deep.) I have a couple set on it, very glossy yellow fruits that I think will have nice orange colour. I'll cull one before 20 days.



The 1634 Werner would have been my star plant but I have it in a 16' x 18' hoop house that I neglected to have adequately ventilated. The main tip burned off so I set fruit on secondary vines just before the tip that was damaged. The good part was that it gave me several attempts at setting fruit at a location that would be inside the hoop house. I need to do that for those cool nights in September. I have a small one that has good size for a 10 day old fruit. Looks to have good colour too.

My field pumpkins are doing ok but are suffering from one weather related phenomenon that has been driving us crazy out here for the last couple of years, wind. The wind just keeps blowing. A 20 kph wind is normal here but we seem to have 40 gusting to 60 or 70 kph at least a couple of times a week since April. Those outside plants are beat up. As I write this we have a wind warning for tonight of 90 kph. ( note- plants survived but they have less leaves than before!) I've gone through a lot of bamboo stakes so far.

Extreme weather is always a factor on the prairies. The southern part of the province has had an early start on the thunderstorm season. Alan Makarchuk came close to a complete wipeout when a tornado touched down just a few miles away from him. He and his family were fine but some of their plants didn't make it. His greenhouse was crushed by the wind, surprising, considering it was constructed of large steel tubes. With some more tubes from our friend Eddy Zaychkowsky he is back in the game, and on schedule, though with a few less plants.

Our weather forecast is for sunny and warm, highs in the low 30s celcius for the first couple of weeks of July. If that keeps up we will do very well here. Hopefully we all end up with some record fruit come weigh off time!

## NEWS FROM EUROPE By Brad Wursten

The weather has been a bit challenging so far in much of central and northern Europe, with cold temperatures, plenty of rain and not much sun. Many of the big name growers grow indoors, but it is hard to compensate a lack of light. But as Europe is a big place, some growers have been experiencing ideal conditions, so somebody somewhere is bound to pop a big one this year.

We have quite a few all-round giant vegetable growers that are very competitive, especially in France, England, the Netherlands and Finland. The not so ideal pumpkin weather is quite ideal for some of the other types of giant vegetables and seeing what some of them growers have going leaves little doubt that one or two world records will be broken again this year. The first show is at the beginning of September, and between then and the end of October, you can be certain that some growers will again prove that even the weather cannot stop them.



**WATER MOVEMENT IN  
PUMPKIN PLANTS**  
By Russ Landry

What I need to know is why does my plants stump and main vine area have a white foamy liquid dripping from it? What is cavitation? How is cavitation caused in plants? How can I help my plants to avoid this condition?

In the past we have often thought of foaming stump as a viral or fungal condition. In fact very little was understood of the condition or its causes until recently. As pumpkin growers we constantly strive for ever increasing size and girth of our burgeoning fruit. The questions we ask are now resolved as more becomes known about this size limiting and often fatal plant condition.

Xylem **cavitation of pumpkin plants** is the formation of vapor bubbles of the flowing liquid in an area where the pressure of the liquid falls below its vapour pressure. The term I am using is called inertial cavitation. It's the process where a void or bubble in a liquid rapidly collapses, producing a shock wave. Such cavitation often occurs in pumps, propellers, impellers and results in pock marked damaged resembling small pits and fissures in the components. In the vascular tissues of plants conducting rivers such as pumpkin plants main vines, inertial cavitation

damages or ruptures the channels & cells of the river we have come to know as the "Calcium Highway."

Pumpkin vine, xylem cavitation or as we have come to refer to as foaming stump ultimately reduces a plant's capacity to move water and nutrients from the soil to the leaves and sinks. Its primary cause is one of unsustainable canopy transpiration rates during high heat and low humidity. The result is in lowering of the xylem **hydraulic water pressure** causing cavitation, embolized (gas-filled) bubbling and ultimately whitish foaming stump percolated from the damaged vine stem.

Leaf stomatal closure prevents further cavitation and desiccation of leaf tissues by reducing transpiration. However this reduces fruit growth by slowing carbon fixation or sink storage.

Several precautions can be taken by growers to protect plants and allow for normal canopy respiration.

1. **Provide a micro climate for your plants:** Growers who mitigate the effects of hot, dry days often experience less problems with foamers. Reduce transpiration by using shade covers to lower air temperatures. Water mist to lower air temps and increase cooling evaporation.
2. **Supplement the leaf surface environment:** Use anti desiccant sprays such as CO<sub>2</sub>, Lithovit and or Relief to control high transpiration.
3. **Supplement the soil moisture:** Ensure adequate soil moisture levels are maintained at all times.
4. **Provide of all plant nutrients in the soil:** Test solubility of all soil nutrients, focusing on calcium and other micro nutrients. Note, simple soil tests do not address soil water solution deficits of nutrients. A & L labs can run separate soil tests to determine solubility of elements.



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**GROWER PROFILE**  
**20 QUESTIONS**  
Featuring Chris Lyons

**Occupation:** I'm a driver for a large regional trucking company based in Southern Ontario.

**Family:** Married to my wife Micki for the past 17 years

**Town/City that you reside:** For the most part I have been a life time resident of Scarborough, Ontario.

**1. How many years have you been growing and what or who got you growing?** My obsession began shortly after my parents moved from Scarborough in 1986 to a rural property in Baltimore Ontario. The first few years were not taken seriously but in 1989 my Dad became more involved and a larger garden was plowed out.

We grew a 229 lb. pumpkin that was entered at a local fair and in 1990 we went to Port Elgin with a 434 and 443 lb. fruits. After a 20 year run of growing giant pumpkins and other giant vegetables along with my Dad the farm was put up for sale and that chapter came to an end.

During that time we both had a chance to take the podium at Port Elgin and weighed a world record squash and a world record long gourd. Since 2011 I have been incredibly fortunate to have the opportunity to continue growing on the property of Phil and Jane Hunt. Just like growing at my parents I am again a weekend warrior grower who suffers from pumpkin separation anxiety disorder. The big difference

now is the tough growing environment north of Cameron that makes it a real challenge for me.

**2. What is the largest pumpkin that you've grown and on which seed did you grow it on?**

In 2010 I grew a 1367 lb. pumpkin on the 1161 Rodonis seed. It is interesting to note that that pumpkin had the slowest start of any pumpkin that I have ever grown since I started keeping records. 16" cir. on Day 10 and only 48" cir. on day 20.

**3. Do you grow any other giant vegetables besides pumpkins and if so what are they?**

For many years I have been involved with long gourds and tomatoes and recently I have become a big fan of field pumpkins as well.

**4. What did you plant last year and what did you plant this season?** My 2011 season started out on a sour note and all of my plants died on me due to hungry root maggots so I was limited to back -up and borrowed plants to fill in the void. The 2011 line-up ended up with three 1185 Kline and a 925 Lyons.

The 2012 line-up is my original selection which is the 1404 Bryson, 1381 Checkon, 1161 Rodonis and 1032 Lyons.

**5. What do you plan to do differently this season?**

My 2011 season was a huge learning experience for me and if I want to do better in 2012 I

have to make some changes. I have made the water delivery system more reliable which seems to be working well and is critical in keeping the plants watered during the week. It was important to improve the soil's texture by adding a large amount of sand to the soil and using more manure compost to bury the vines.

This season I am also using maple syrup along with biota max to help improve the soil's micob activity and I kept the plants under shade cloth longer than I usually do. If I could they would be under it for the whole season as the plants experienced no leaf burn or wilted while under it.

**6. Do you have any other hobbies other than giant vegetable growing?**

My other activity is fishing although it has suffered a lot over the past few years as giant vegetable growing has become more intense over the years.

**7. What was your soil's PH & what % of organic matter was your patch at the start of the season? What type of soil do you have (sandy loam, clay loam, etc. ) What are your Base Saturation numbers (K, Mg & Cal)?**

The soil in "Dry Gulch" is a heavy clay loam sitting on a limestone base. The PH has stayed steady at 7.7 since I started taking samples and the

O.M. is showing about 4.5% in the spring and near 6% in the fall. My base saturation numbers are holding around 3%k 8%Mg 89%Ca. These reading are almost identical to what my soil was like while growing at my parents farm.

**8. Besides getting a Soil Report done, what do you think are the most important things a grower can do in the fall to prepare for the next season? How much organic material would you add to each plot?**

Cleaning up all residual matter from the garden and immediate area and disposing of it has always been important to me. Last fall about 6 yards of manure were added and the garden and it was sub-soiled. This was necessary because the soil had only been tilled to a depth of 6" for the 2011 season.

**9. What are the most important things a grower should do in the spring to prepare for the season ahead? What do you add to your soil in the spring to prepare for the season? Also, do you grow in the same plots each year or do you have another patch that you can rotate back & forth? If so, how often would you rotate from one patch to another (every 2 or 3 years or every year)?**

For me it's allowing the soil to dry out enough before working

it. I try to work in all the amendments at once along with another 6 or 7 yards of manure. In the immediate growing area I add peat moss and I work it in with a broadfork. After that the entire patch is tilled.

The entire growing area that I am working is about 3,000 sq. ft in which there are four giant pumpkins as well as tomatoes, two field pumpkins and a long gourd trellis. It was easy to rotate the long gourd trellis and tomato plants but the Giant pumpkins are grown in the same space so keeping the area clean of disease is important.

**10. What date do you start your seeds, put your plants outside & what do you use for protection from weather & cold temps? For many years now I have started the giant pumpkin seeds during the last week of April and have set them out in 5'x8' hoop houses around the 15th of May. It is possible to set them out earlier but I like to play it safe and avoid the risk of frost.**

**11. Were any fertilizers used in the 1st stage of the plants life (1st true leaf stage to just before pollination) & how were they applied? My fertilization program begins when the seedling is transplanted into the garden. Fish emulsion and seaweed are added in the watering and a dry organic 4-3-7 fertilizer are broadcast under the leaf**

canopy from time to time.

**12. Do you use Mycorrhizal Fungi on your plant's roots? If so, only on the stump area or do you use it at each leaf node as well?** The use of mycorrhizal fungi has become the backbone of my growing program. I use it from starting the seedling until the last leaf node is buried. I also use it for long gourds, field pumpkins and giant tomatoes as well. It's scientifically proven to increase the roots ability to uptake nutrients through the season and you can't go wrong with that.

**13. What fertilizers do you use after the pumpkin is pollinated? How often and at what rates? How are they applied, through the soil or as a foliar application?** By mid- June I start adding Calcimax , Phortress, relief as well as fulvic and humic acid on a weekly basis. It is all added by a drench application.

**14. How do you water your plants (by hand, sprinkler system, underground or misting system) & how much water per plant per day do you use when the pumpkin is at around 400#, 700# & 1000#?** This is something that many newer growers struggle with. Watering has always been a bit of a struggle for me regardless of where I am growing. Since I never have enough as I would like, it is rationed by time and availability. My automated

watering system allows me to water 7 days a week using overhead sprinklers and I provide a good soaking when I'm available during the weekend. All water is bought by the beginning of summer and is increased in distribution during the season. I would love to have more available but you have to use what is available. For the most part I am trying to get by using about 1500 Gals. a week on four giant pumpkins if it is necessary I will have to increase it to 2,000 gals a week during August if things don't improve.

**15. How many SQ FT do you grow your plants? Do you bury all the main & secondary vines & at what lengths do you terminate the Main & Secondary vines? Do you allow all the secondary vines to grow or do you trim every second or third vine to allow for better airflow around the plant? What vine pattern do you prefer best?**

My plants are grown back to back, about 6' apart with elevated walkways between the stumps. In previous years I allowed the plants to grow to 500 sq. ft but due to this summer's conditions I am keeping them around 400 sq. ft and unlike in other seasons I am keeping all secondary vines to help keep the soil shaded under the canopy. All vines are buried as they are growing and due to space limits I keep the plant's side vines at about 12 to 14' and the main vine is usually

only allowed to grow another 6' without any side vines beyond the pumpkin.

**16. Tell us what you use as a pesticide and fungicide during the season?** Due to legal restraints I have been advised not to discuss my own personal situation here but I can say that my use of Phortress and YEA may be helping reduce the onset of powdery mildew.

**17. Do you use a mulch at all to help suppress the weeds or do you weed the old fashion way, by hand & hoe? Any tips on weed control?**

Tried straw once as a mulch and got mice and lots of damage to the pumpkins. Now it's just pull and hoe. I try to keep the plants as weed free as possible without disrupting the pumpkin plant's own root system.

**18. Could you give us some late season (month of September) advice to help our growers get the maximum growth from our pumpkins?** Over the years I have found that a plant that is healthy and maintained all the way through to the end of the season will carry on with a weight gain of 200 to 250 lbs in the month of September. During a few seasons My Dad and myself were able to squeeze 300 lbs plus on a few late pollinated fruits because of favorable weather conditions and building a greenhouse over

the plants.

**19. What were the 2 most important factors that help you grow monster pumpkins each year?** For me it would have to be perseverance through the whole growing season. Staying with your growing program despite setbacks and hard work seem to pay off over the long run. There is no substitute for hard work and recognizing and taking care of the little problems before they become big ones. There is no doubt that my overall weighs improved over the years when I cut back on the number of plants I grew and more effort was put into those fewer plants.

**20. Is there any one piece of advice you would give to new growers?** Definitely don't take on too much in your first few years. Growing giants can be a handful and the worst thing a new grower can do is get frustrated by having too many plants and not enough time. Try to keep it fun and interesting, not a chore and you'll be hooked for life.



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- Kelp Fertilizer Mix

For more information call:  
**John Sweeting, Bio-Ag Dealer**  
705-740-2269  
1-800-363-5278  
[www.bio-ag.com](http://www.bio-ag.com)



Working with Nature – Naturally



# PRIZE STRUCTURE

Saturday Weigh-Off... Saturday September 29, 2012

Category	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	13th	14th	15th
<b>Class 1 Vegetables - Registration is \$30 - no matter how many categories are entered</b>															
Heaviest Pumpkin	\$5,000	\$1,500	\$1,000	\$500	\$300	\$250	\$200	\$175	\$150	\$125	\$100	\$75	\$50	\$40	\$30
4 Bonus draws of \$500 for the 1000+ lb pumpkins/squash weighed in!															
Heaviest Squash <small>100% green, grey, blue and/or combination. Stripes allowed, no blotches. All others will be deemed a pumpkin.</small>	\$2,000	\$500	\$400	\$250	\$200										
Heaviest Watermelon	\$500	\$300	\$250	\$200	\$150										
Heaviest Tomato	\$300	\$175	\$100	\$75	\$50										
2012 Feature Vegetable!!															
Longest Gourd	\$200	\$100	\$75	\$50	\$25										
Heaviest Cabbage	\$100	\$75	\$50												
Heaviest Field Pumpkin	\$100	\$75	\$50												

Howard Dill Award	\$100
Closest to Hidden Weight (Pumpkin)	TBA

Additional \$500 for any New World Record Vegetable in Class 1!  
Prize to be paid after the completion of all 2012 weigh-offs and it is determined that this entry is the official standing World Record

**Class 2 Vegetables - Registration is \$15 if Class 1 Registration has not been previously paid**

Tallest Sunflower	\$50	\$35	\$20
Tallest Cornstalk	\$50	\$35	\$20
Other Heaviest/ Longest/ Most Unusual Vegetable*	\$50	\$35	\$20

Port Elgin Pumpkinfest 559 Goderich Street, Port Elgin, ON. N0H 2C4  
www.pumpkinfest.org 1-800-387-3456 Fax: 519-389-3725  
This prize structure is subject to change. Visit [www.pumpkinfest.org](http://www.pumpkinfest.org) for rules & regulations. All monies are in Canadian Funds

\*It is important to remember that the other heaviest/ longest/ most unusual vegetable is awarded at the judges' discretion and the most spectacular entry will be awarded first prize

Rules available at [www.pumpkinfest.org](http://www.pumpkinfest.org)

# PRIZE STRUCTURE

Sunday Weigh-Off... Sunday September 30, 2012

Category	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	NEW THIS YEAR - 1 Bonus Draw of \$200 for all Class 1 Vegetable Entrants
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**Class 1 Vegetables - Registration is \$30 - no matter how many categories are entered**

Heaviest Pumpkin	1000*	\$500	\$300	\$200	\$100	*First Place Pumpkin will also receive TBA				
Heaviest Squash <small>100% green, grey, blue and/or combination. Stripes allowed, no blotches. All others will be deemed a pumpkin.</small>	\$300	\$200	\$100	Additional \$500 for any New World Record Vegetable in Class 1! Prize to be paid after the completion of all 2012 weigh-offs and it is determined that this entry is the official standing World Record						
Heaviest Watermelon	\$250	\$150	\$100							
Heaviest Tomato	\$225	\$100	\$85	<p><b>Rules available on</b> <a href="http://www.pumpkinfest.org">www.pumpkinfest.org</a></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="1199 602 1871 776"> <tr> <td>Howard Dill Award</td> <td>\$100</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Closest to Hidden Weight (Pumpkin)</td> <td>TBA</td> </tr> </table>			Howard Dill Award	\$100	Closest to Hidden Weight (Pumpkin)	TBA
Howard Dill Award	\$100									
Closest to Hidden Weight (Pumpkin)	TBA									
Longest Gourd	\$125	\$75	\$50							
Heaviest Cabbage	\$100	\$50	\$35							
Heaviest Field Pumpkin	\$100	\$50	\$35							

2012 Feature Vegetable!!

**Class 2 Vegetables - Registration is \$15 if Class 1 Registration has not been previously paid**

Tallest Sunflower	\$50	\$35	\$20
Tallest Cornstalk	\$50	\$35	\$20
Biggest Sunflower Face	\$50	\$35	\$20
Other Heaviest/ Longest/ Most Unusual Vegetable*	\$50	\$35	\$20

**ONLY ON SUNDAY!**

Novice Grower Bonus*	\$350
Fred Wuerth Memorial Tri-County Growers Award**	\$350

\* Awarded to the Novice Grower (3 years or less growing experience) with the largest pumpkin.

\*\* Awarded to the grower from the Tri-County Area (Bruce/Grey/Huron) with the largest pumpkin.

\*It is important to remember that the other heaviest/ longest/ most unusual vegetable is awarded at the judges' discretion and the most spectacular entry will be awarded

Port Elgin Pumpkinfest 559 Goderich Street, Port Elgin, ON. N0H 2C4 [www.pumpkinfest.org](http://www.pumpkinfest.org) 1-800-387-3456 Fax: 519-389-3725 This prize structure is subject to change. Visit [www.pumpkinfest.org](http://www.pumpkinfest.org) for rules & regulations. All monies are in Canadian Funds

## List of Up Coming Weigh-Offs in Ontario

Please double check event dates and entry times on the listed home pages. Please be aware that some of these weigh-offs are governed by a sanctioning organization and some are not.

Hugli's Blueberry Ranch, Pembroke, ON	Sept. 22 <sup>nd</sup>	<a href="http://blueberryranch.ca/">http://blueberryranch.ca/</a>
Blue Water Growers and Throwers,	Sept.22 <sup>nd</sup> .	<a href="http://bwgt.ca">http://bwgt.ca</a>
Port Elgin Pumpkinfest	Sept. 29 <sup>th</sup> ,30 <sup>th</sup>	<a href="http://www.pumpkinfest.org">http://www.pumpkinfest.org</a>
Simcoe Fair,	Oct. 2 <sup>nd</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	<a href="http://www.norfolkcountyfair.com">http://www.norfolkcountyfair.com</a>
Erin County Fair,	Oct. 6 <sup>th</sup>	<a href="http://www.erinfair.ca">http://www.erinfair.ca</a>
Woodbridge Fair,	Oct. 6 <sup>th</sup>	<a href="http://www.woodbridgefair.com">http://www.woodbridgefair.com</a>
Prince Edward County Pumpkinfest , Wellington, ON	October 13 <sup>th</sup>	<a href="http://www.pec.on.ca/pumpkinfest">http://www.pec.on.ca/pumpkinfest</a>
Keene Pumpkin Festival,	Oct 20 <sup>th</sup>	<a href="http://www.pumpkinfest.org/">http://www.pumpkinfest.org/</a>
Royal Winter Fair, Toronto Ont.	Nov. 2 <sup>nd</sup> -11 <sup>th</sup>	<a href="http://royalfair.org/">http://royalfair.org/</a>



## GVGO Patch Tour Sites- August 11, 2012 Driving Directions

### Stop# 1- Ken & Barb Leslie 9174 Wellington Road 16 Conn, Ontario

From Hwy 400 take Hwy 89 West to Wellington Road 16 and turn left. The farm is on the right hand side. It is called Stone Maple Farm and the driveway is long and lined with maple trees.

If you are coming from the Guelph area, take Hwy 6 north to Arthur and take Wellington Road 109 east to Wellington Road 16 and turn left. Go north and the farm is on the left side. A sign will be placed at the end of their long tree lined driveway.

### Stop# 2- Conrad & Arlene Wheildon 9382 Wellington Road 124 Erin, Ontario

From stop#1 take Wellington Road 16 south to Wellington Road 109 and turn left. Continue onto Dufferin County Road 109 and turn right onto County Road 24/Regional Road 25 S. Continue to follow County Road 24. Continue onto Trafalgar Road N. then turn right onto Wellington County Road 124. The destination is on the right.

### Stop# 3- John & Sue Nieuwenhoff 37 Stewartown Road Georgetown, Ontario

From stop# 2 head northeast on County Road 124 toward Trafalgar Road N/County Road 24. Turn right onto Trafalgar Rd N/County Rd 24. Continue to follow Trafalgar Rd N and turn left onto ON-7 E (signs for Georgetown). Turn right on Trafalgar Rd/Regional Road 3 then right again onto Stewartown Road.

Please meet at stop 1 at 9am. Coffee/Donuts will be available. Lunch will be served at stop 3. A \$10.00/person fee will be collected at stop 3 to help cover the costs. I can be reached on my cell phone below if anyone has any questions. **Don't forget your lawn chairs.**

Thanks,

Pat Watson

Cell# 519-871-1781