

Cucurbit Research at The Lane Agriculture – conventional and organic

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The Lane Agriculture Center research and extension facility is operated by Oklahoma State University and the Agricultural Research Service of the United States Department of Agriculture. Located in southeastern Oklahoma, USA, the center specializes in production, post-harvest handling and pest management of cucurbit crops such as watermelon, cantaloupe, and squash. Program areas include plant pathology, weed science, crop nutrition, entomology, post harvest physiology, biochemistry, cultural practices and molecular biology. The center has a tradition of addressing the needs of commercial growers who use conventional production practices. In recent years new programs have been established to develop vegetable production practices suitable for sustainable and certified organic producer needs. Current project areas include weed control with corn gluten meal and vinegar, poultry litter as a nutrient source, insect and disease control using organic-approved biopesticides, and cover crop management for weed control. Economic analysis is applied to various aspects of this research effort. Several of the 13 resident scientists are bilingual and interaction with other institutions is welcomed. Contact the center at www.lane-ag.org