

Breeding an OP Broccoli

From Oregon State University's
project

Breeding Objectives

- A stable, OP broccoli variety suitable for use by commercial fresh market organic growers in the Pacific Northwest.

Breeding Objectives

- Criteria for selecting an ideal type
 - Vigorous, healthy growth under organic growing conditions, competitiveness with weeds, and resistance to any pests or pathogens that are present.
 - Clean leaf abscission- growers need to be able to strip leaves quickly in the field without using trimming knives.
 - Even maturity.
 - Good flavor and attractive color.

Breeding Objectives

- Criteria for selecting an ideal type
 - Medium size un-branched heads (2 1/2-3 inches in diameter) with tight, refined beads. Beads are the individual unopened flower buds that make up a broccoli head. Ideally, heads should be of a size and shape that makes them easy to attractively bunch in groups of 3.

Breeding Method

Mass Selection

- Start with several hybrids and OPs
 - Allow cross-pollination
 - Save seed and bulk
 - Plant saved seed next year- large population- 200 plants to the field
 - Select for type, resistance, etc.,
 - Rogue out plants that don't meet objectives *before flowering*
 - Repeat above steps

Mass Selection













