

MANAGING PECAN SCAB THROUGH VARIETY SELECTION- THE GEORGIA PECAN BREEDING PROGRAM



Dr. Patrick Conner
University of Georgia – Tifton Campus



THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL &
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES



Scab Resistance

- A primary factor in cultivar choice.
- The resistance of a pecan cultivar will be influenced by the races present where it is grown.
- There tends to more scab pressure as you go south and east.
- Do not plant a susceptible cultivar if you can not spray.





Points to Consider

- Scab varies by location.
- Cultivars often appear to lose resistance over time.
- Black aphids may require spraying even if scab doesn't.
- Very early cultivars will be heavily fed on by crows, they must be harvested when ready.
- Cultivars with high early yields usually must be crop thinned when mature.



Recommended for low spray / high pressure situations

Strong Resistance

McMillan

Excel

Lakota

Gafford

Elliott

Amling

Partial Resistance

Sumner

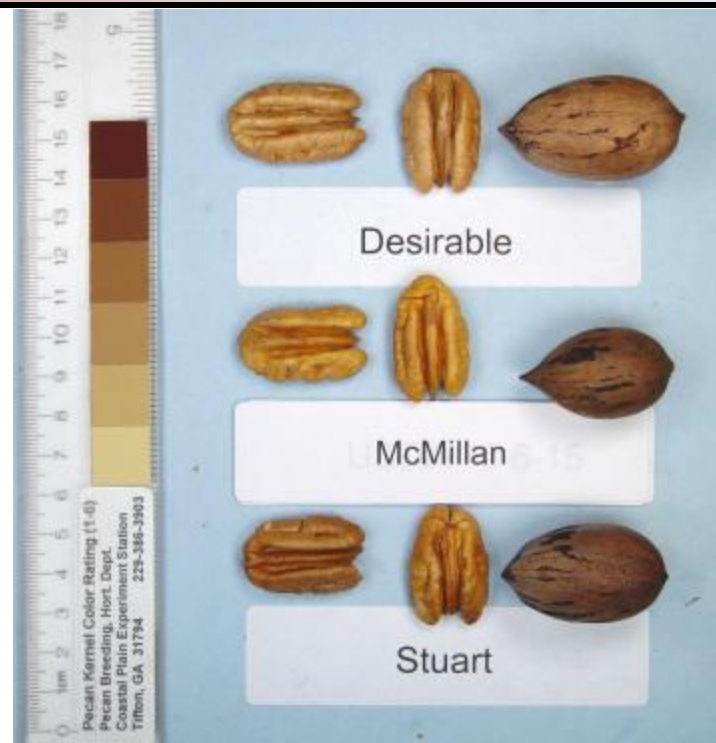
Creek

Moreland



McMillan

- Excellent overall pest resistance.
- Medium sized nut.
- Medium quality kernel.
- Excellent productivity.



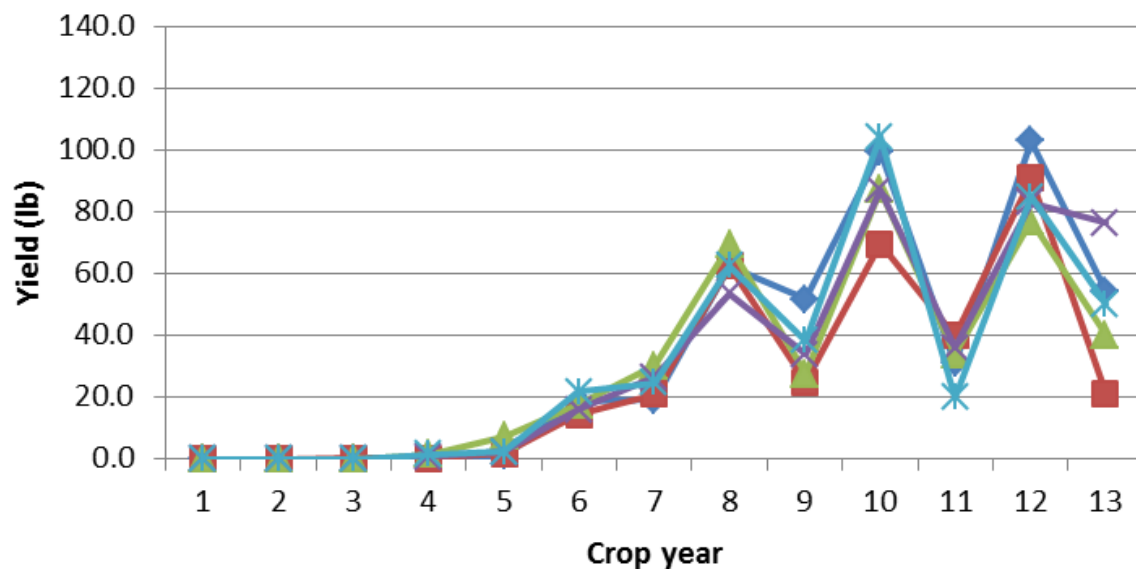


McMillan

Yield (pounds / tree) of Excel each year from planting.

Cultivar	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	Avg.
McMillan	1	3	18	24	63	35	90	32	88	49	31
Desirable	1	3	12	20	20	45	53	45	43	57	24
Stuart	0	1	7	20	30	54	48	58	76	68	28

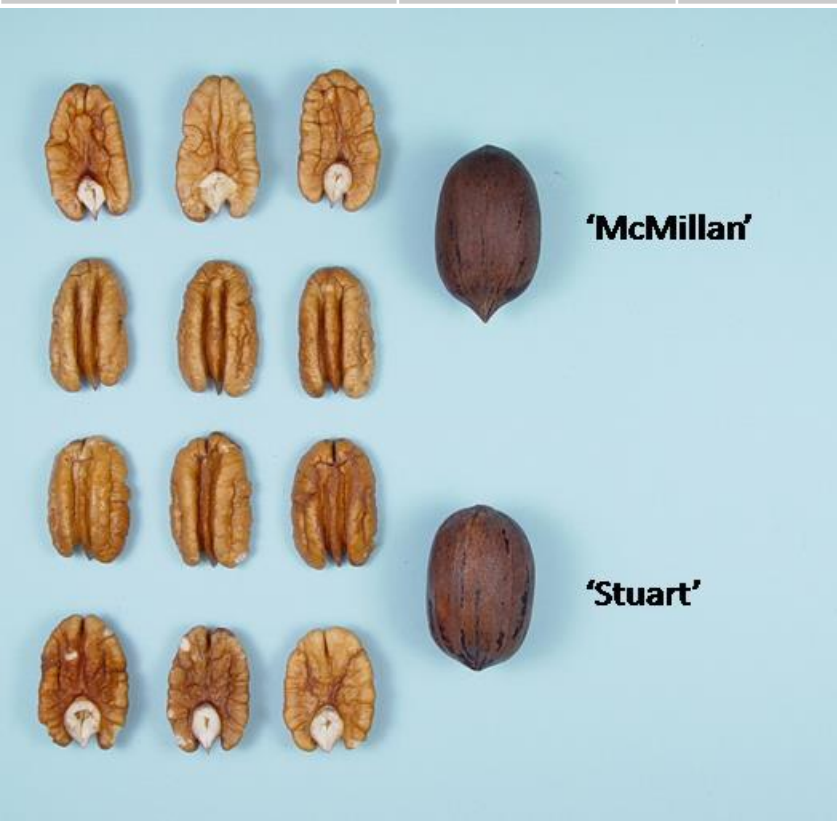
McMillan





McMillan

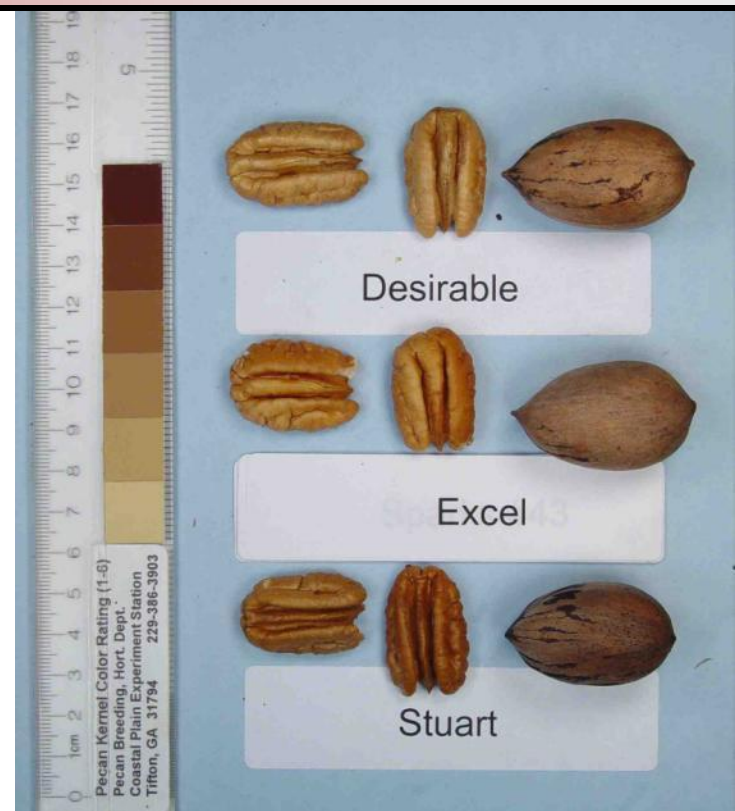
Cultivar	Nuts / pound	% Kernel	Harvest	Nut scab	Black aphid damage
McMillan	51	50	Oct. 12	1.0 (1.0)	1.5 (2.2)
Desirable	43	52	Oct. 14	2.5 (4.4)	1.7 (2.7)
Stuart	47	45	Oct. 12	1.5 (3.5)	2.3 (3.8)





Excel

- Excellent overall pest resistance.
- Large sized nut.
- Thick shell reduces % kernel.
- Thin canopy.
- Earliness is variable, not early in Tifton.

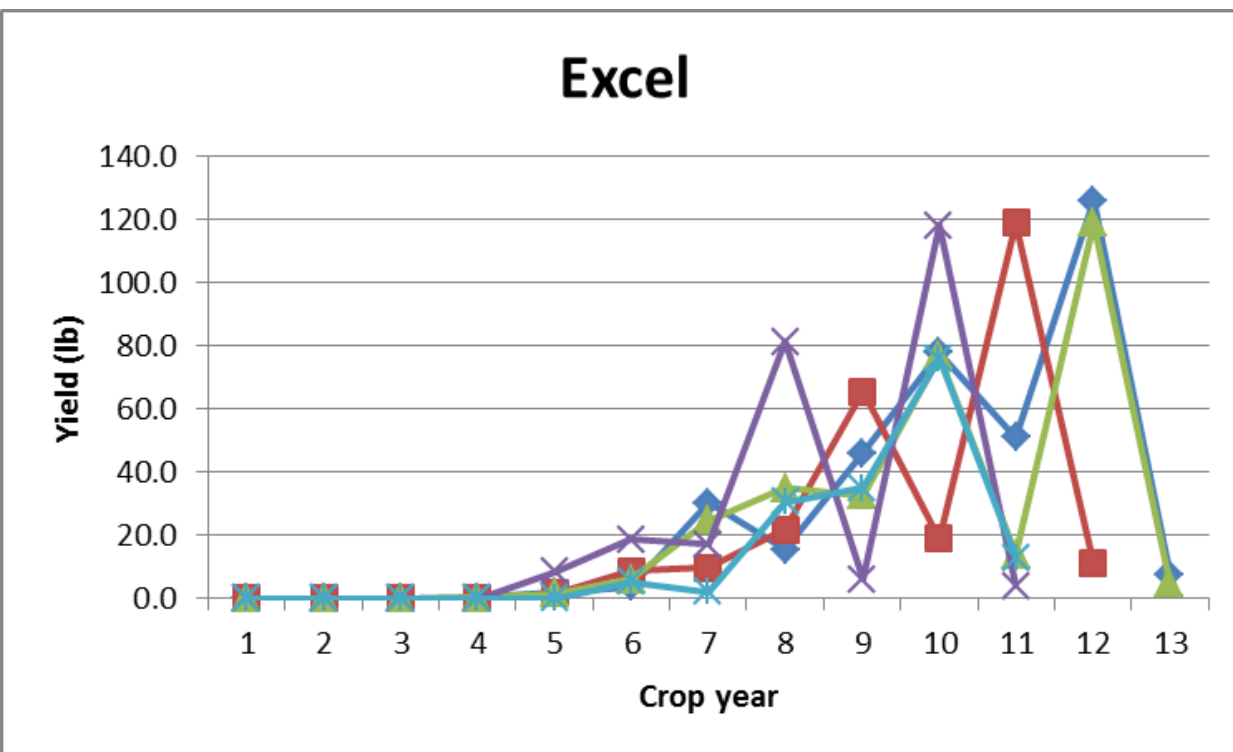




Excel

Yield (pounds / tree) of Excel each year from planting.

Cultivar	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	Avg.
Excel	0	3	8	17	37	37	74	40	85	6	24
Desirable	1	3	12	20	20	45	53	45	43	57	24
Stuart	0	1	7	20	30	54	48	58	76	68	28





Excel

Cultivar	Nuts / pound	% Kernel	Harvest	Nut scab	Black aphid damage
Excel	45	49	Oct. 7	1.0 (1.0)	1.4 (2.2)
Desirable	43	52	Oct. 14	2.5 (4.4)	1.7 (2.7)
Stuart	47	45	Oct. 12	1.5 (3.5)	2.3 (3.8)



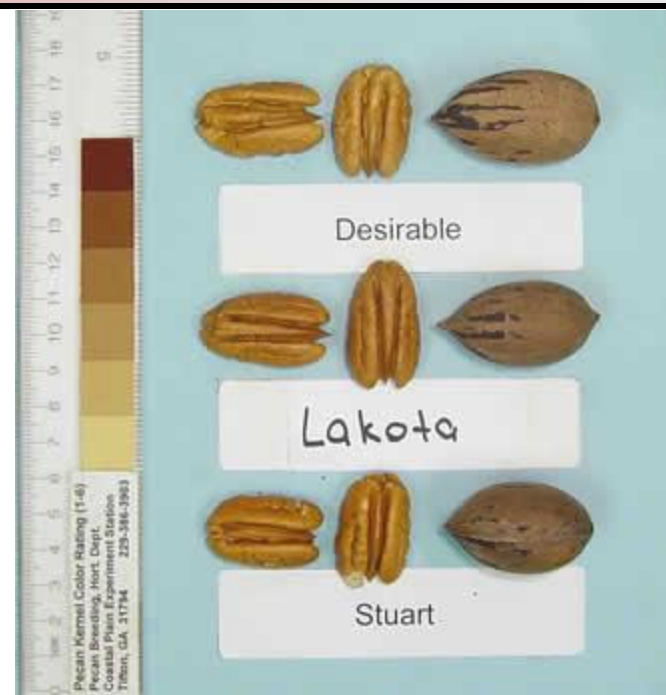


Lakota

- USDA release in 2007.
- No scab anywhere, so far.
- Vigorous tree.
- Early harvest, end of Sept.
- High precocity, will need crop thinning.

Variable nut size – 50-55 nuts/lb.

58% kernel





Gafford

- Excellent overall pest resistance.
- Bigger but less quality than McMillan.
- Occasional kernel spotting.
- Midseason harvest.

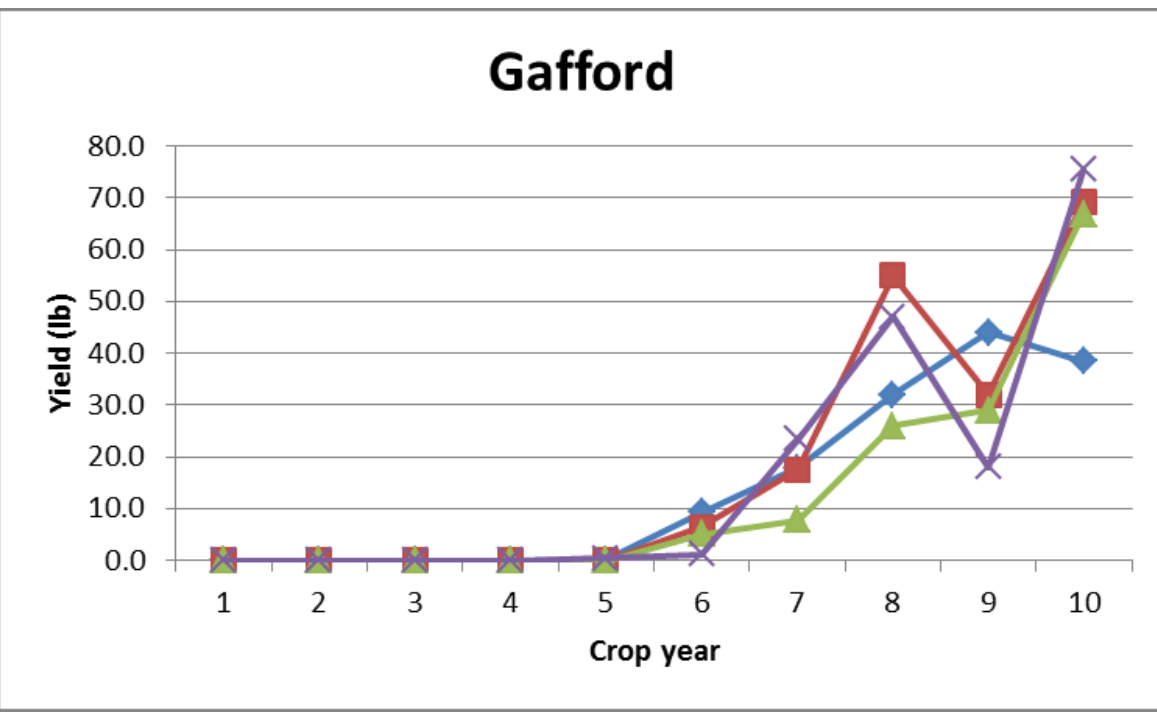




Gafford

Yield (pounds / tree) of Excel each year from planting.

Cultivar	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	Avg.
Gafford	0	0	6	17	40	31	63				16
Desirable	0	1	4	16	29	30	37				12
Sumner	0	2	8	27	25	73	33				17





Gafford

Cultivar	Nuts / pound	% Kernel	Harvest	Nut scab	Black aphid damage
Gafford	49	51	Oct. 28	1.0 (1.0)	1.1 (1.3)
Desirable	43	52	Oct. 14	2.5 (4.4)	1.7 (2.7)
Stuart	47	45	Oct. 12	1.5 (3.5)	2.3 (3.8)





Elliott

- Long standing high resistance.
- Well-known cultivar.
- Alternates.
- Small nut size.

77 nuts / lb.

51% kernel



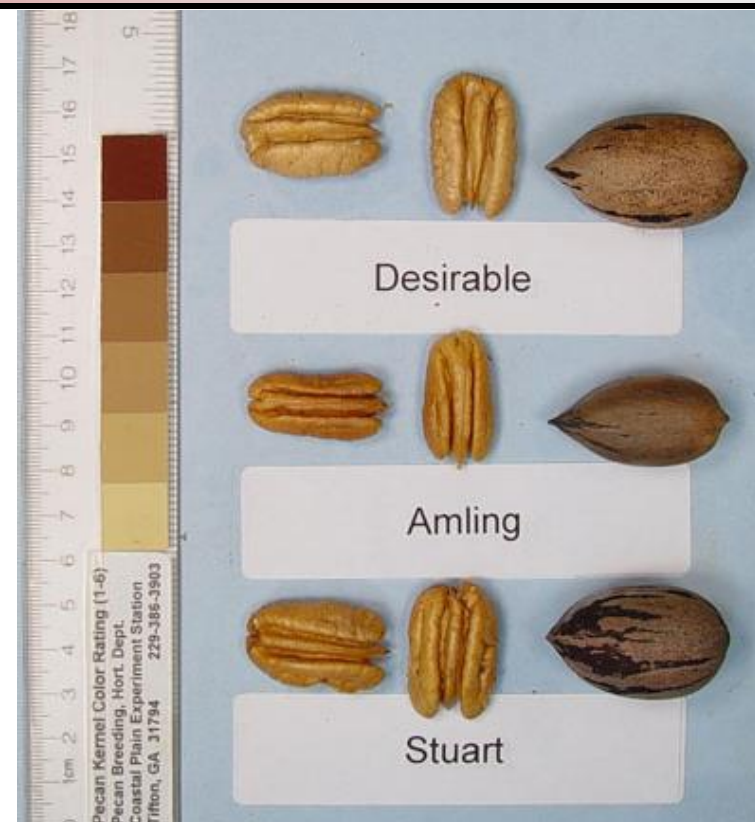


Amling

- Excellent overall pest resistance.
- Small nut size.
- Midseason harvest.
- Excellent yard tree.

62 nuts / lb.

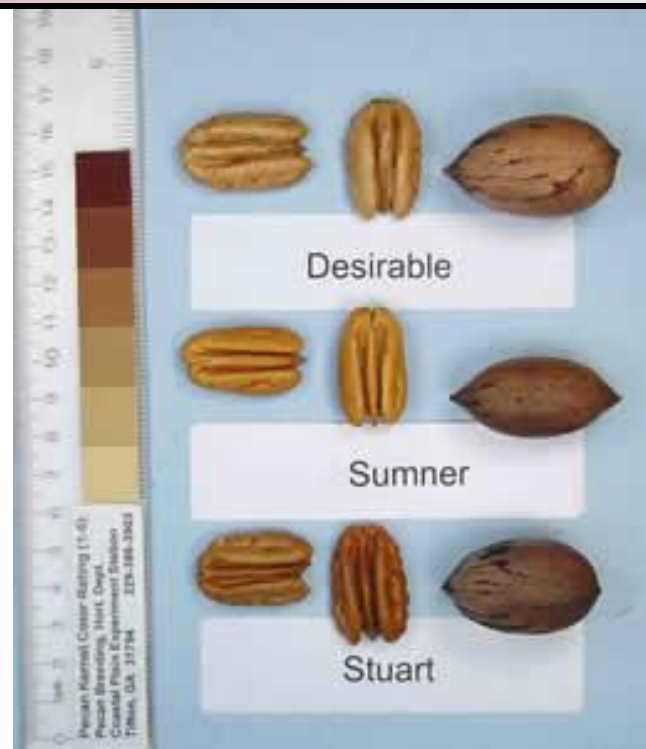
55% kernel





Sumner

- Popular scab resistant cultivar in Georgia.
- Will scab without sprays.
- Black aphids are a problem.
- Late harvest.
- Good size and quality.

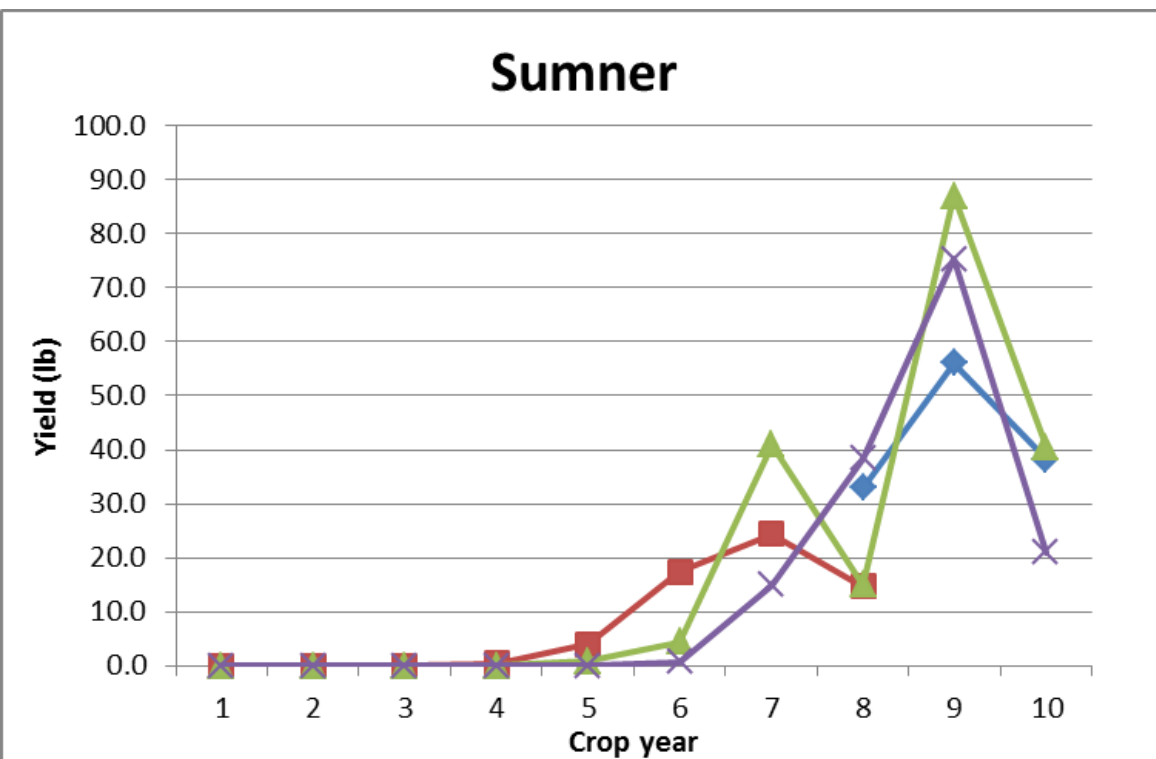




Sumner

Yield (pounds / tree) of Excel each year from planting.

Cultivar	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	Avg.
Sumner	0	2	8	27	25	73	33				17
Desirable	0	1	4	16	29	30	37				12





Sumner

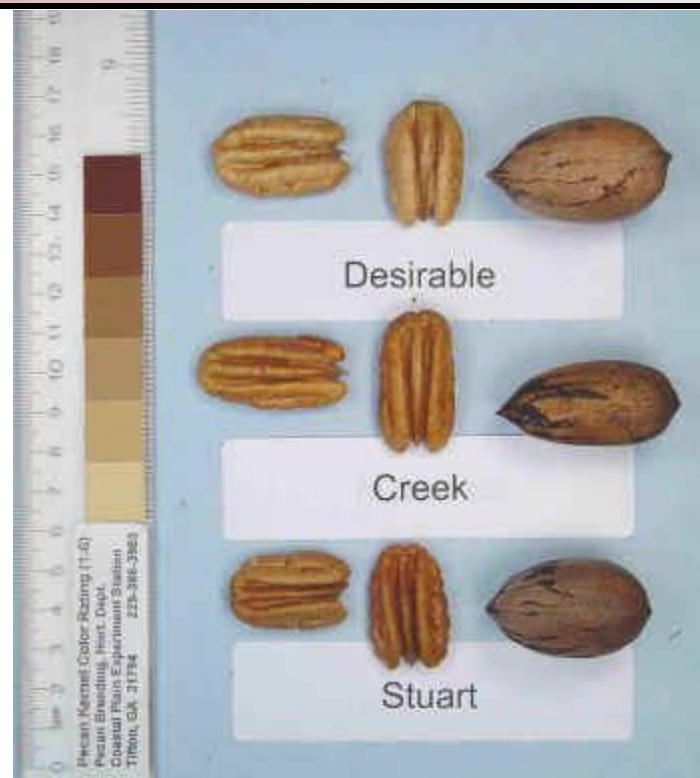
Cultivar	Nuts / pound	% Kernel	Harvest	Nut scab	Black aphid damage
Sumner	54	51	Oct. 29	1.0 (1.0)	1.9 (3.0)
Desirable	43	52	Oct. 14	2.5 (4.4)	1.7 (2.7)
Stuart	47	45	Oct. 12	1.5 (3.5)	2.3 (3.8)

% kernel would be improved with crop thinning.



Creek

- USDA release in 1996.
- 55 nuts/lb and 48% kernel. (without thinning).
- Overloads badly, needs crop thinning.
- Upright strong tree.
- Reported to bear well in competition.
- Only plant it if you will summer crop thin!

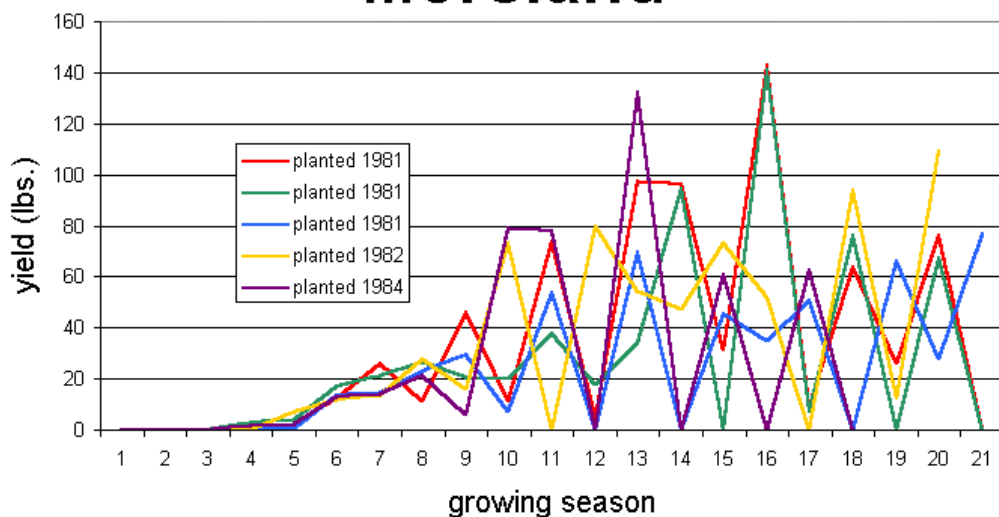




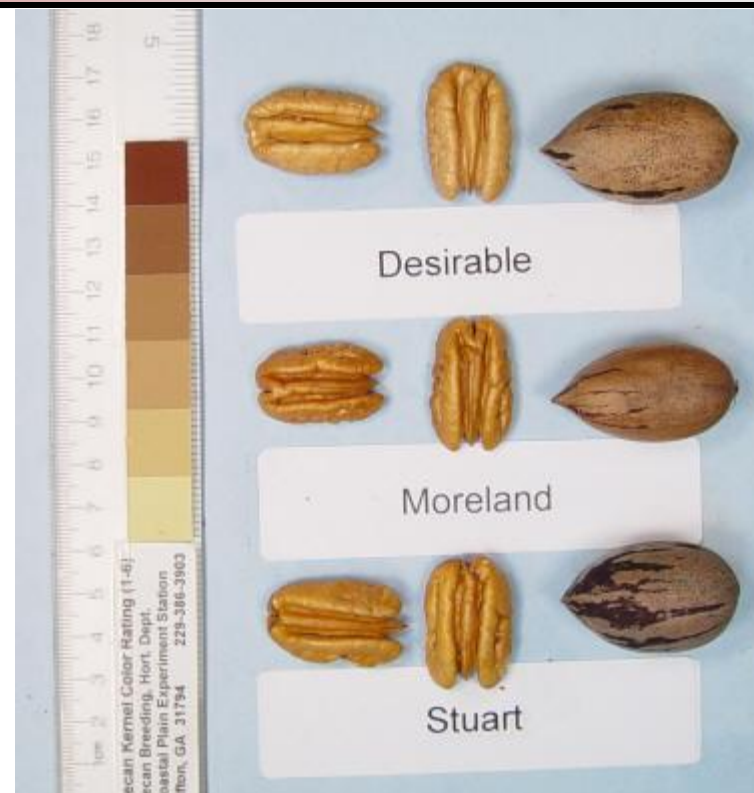
Moreland

- 61 nuts/lb and 52% kernel. (without thinning).
- Good yields.
- Crop thinning would be beneficial.
- 1 week after Stuart.

Moreland



Final Year = 2001





Excellent Resistance

- What I would plant.
 - McMillan : Great overall pest resistance, good productivity.
 - Excel : Good overall pest resistance, large size, needs thinning.
 - Gafford: Pollinator for either McMillan or Excel.
- What I might plant.
 - Lakota : Little data so far, but is early with good quality.



Excellent resistance

- What I wouldn't plant.
 - Headquarters : Hard to shell, poor looking kernel.
 - Syrup Mill : Percent kernel is too low.
 - Suprize : Kernel quality was terrible in Tifton.
 - Gloria Grande : Kernel was often poor in Tifton, black aphids are bad.
 - Curtis : Too late and small, often spotted.



- Poor Resistance

- Pawnee
- Desirable
- Byrd
- Cunard
- Morrill
- Treadwell
- Sioux
- Stuart
- Forkert
- Cape Fear
- Zinner
- Giftpack

ALL THIS INFORMATION AND MORE IS ON OUR WEBSITE.

SEARCH FOR US UNDER "UGA PECAN BREEDING".



Dr. Patrick Conner
University of Georgia – Tifton Campus



THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL &
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES