

Propagators using the Ontario Plant Propagation Program:

These propagators buy parent plants from the SPUD Unit in New Liskeard. When you buy plants from these propagators, a check-off, or portion of the price is returned to the OBGA.

Ghesquiere Plant Farms Ltd,
Evergreen Hill Road, Simcoe, ON N3Y 1B8
Phone 519-428-1087
Fax: 519-426-0073
Email: ghesquierefarm@kwic.com

Strawberry Tyme Farms Inc.,
RR#2 Simcoe, ON N3Y 4K1
Phone 519-426-3099
Fax: 519-426-2573
Email: styme@kwic.com
Website: www.strawberrytyme.com



Stock plants in the screenhouse are protected from virus-vectors such as aphids



Micropropagated strawberry plants



Plants are propagated in the field for two years



Verification plots are inspected to ensure trueness to type

Ontario Berry Growers Association Plant Propagation Program

Providing high quality strawberry and raspberry plants to Ontario fruit growers.



Ontario Berry Growers Association Plant Propagation Program

The Ontario Berry Growers Association Plant Propagation Program is designed to provide high quality strawberry and raspberry plants to Ontario fruit growers.

Program features:

- Virus indexing and micropropagation at the University of Guelph's SPUD Unit in New Liskeard.
- Guidelines for screenhouse and field propagation designed to minimize pest infestations.
- Third party inspection of plants in propagator's screenhouse and fields.
- Verification plots at University of Guelph, Simcoe.
- A tracking system to follow each lot of plants through the system, from stock plant through to point of sale.

Steps in the plant propagation program:

In New Liskeard:

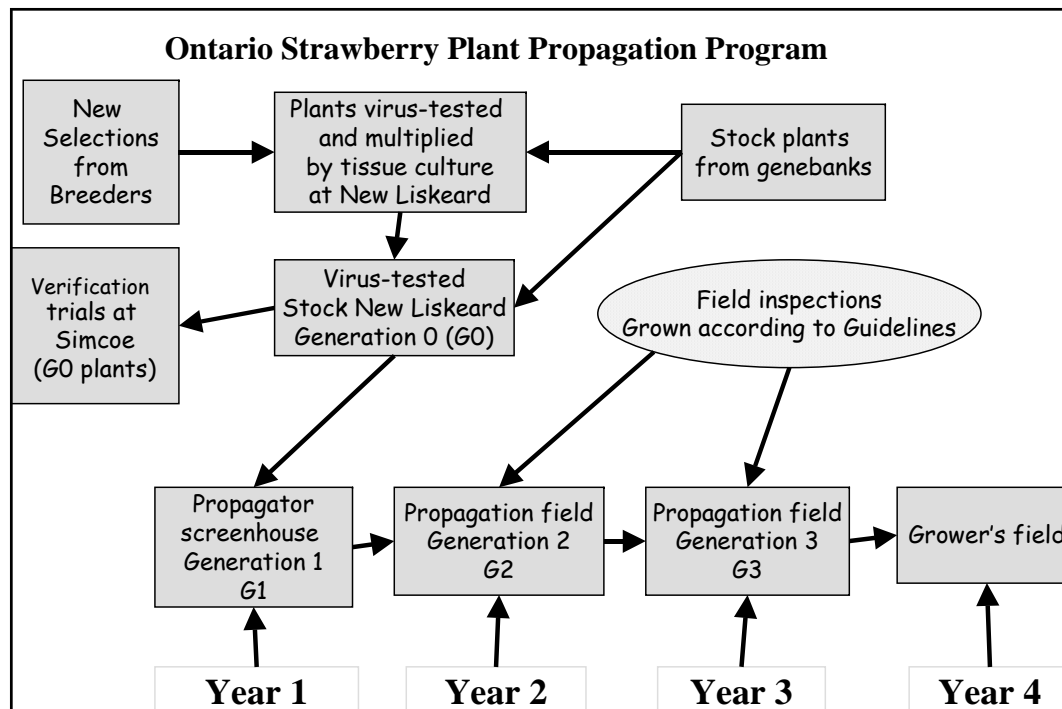
- Stock plants are maintained and propagated in a screened greenhouse, designed to minimize infection from viruses and other serious diseases, insects, mites and nematodes.
- Stock plants are virus-tested using ELISA and by grafting and sap inoculation with indicator plants.
- Stock plants are DNA tested to verify the variety.
- After virus and DNA testing, the runners are used to establish each cultivar in tissue culture.
- Micropropagated plantlets are indexed for bacterial and fungal diseases and discarded if contamination is detected.
- Micropropagated plants are shipped to the plant propagators for further multiplication.

At the Plant Propagators:

- Micropropagated plants are propagated for one season in aphid-proof screenhouses, isolated from insects and disease.
- The resulting plants are propagated in the field for two years.
- Guidelines to reduce pests and diseases and the potential for infection are followed. These guidelines include specified isolation distances, soil and root samples for nematodes, and tolerance levels for insects and diseases.
- A third-party inspector inspects the screenhouses and fields twice each year. Varietal blocks in the field are destroyed if it appears the varieties are mixed, or if the pest disease and insect tolerances are not met.

At the University of Guelph, Simcoe

- Samples of micropropagated and vegetatively propagated strawberry plants are planted in a verification trial each year.
- These plots are checked for disease symptoms, plant abnormalities, and variety mixtures.



The OBGA Plant Propagation Program is administered by the OBGA ACHENE committee.

For more information on the program, its propagators, and guidelines or the ACHENE committee, contact the Ontario Berry Growers Association.

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