

# Horticulture

## Research Protocols

### Broccoli Variety Trial

**Objective:** Determine which broccoli variety, Belstar, Imperial, or Gypsy, performs best as a summer broccoli in Iowa. (For this study, a summer broccoli is harvested during **July – first week of September**).

**Farmer-cooperator will:**

- **Take photos** throughout the project.
- Keep in contact with PFI with updates and questions
- **Spring 2016**, plant broccoli in 4 replications (as shown) in randomized and replicated plots of each variety. Multiple successions of the replicated planting is encouraged.
- Plots should be 10-20 plants.
- Record planting management information as requested in the Excel workbook.
- **Summer 2016**, harvest broccoli heads and side shoots separately, recording yield and scoring quality of broccoli heads. The Excel workbook should be used as a guide.
- Turn in all data by October 2016

**Practical Farmers of Iowa will:**

- *Help set up protocol including Excel workbook for data entry, provide support as needed.*
- *Analyze data and publish results in a PFI research report, on PFI website, and potentially other outlets.*
- *Provide \$550 cooperator payment at conclusion of project year.*

**Example Plot Layout (for 3 varieties)**

Rep1	Rep2	Rep3	Rep4
Belstar	Gypsy	Gypsy	Imperial
Imperial	Belstar	Imperial	Gypsy
Gypsy	Imperial	Belstar	Belstar

**Example Plot Layout (for 2 varieties – must be Belstar and Imperial)**

Rep1	Rep2	Rep3	Rep4
Belstar	Imperial	Imperial	Belstar
Imperial	Belstar	Belstar	Imperial

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