Florida Company patents strawberry varieties

J & P research of Naples FLorida recently applied for patents for three of its proprietary strawberry cultivars. Below is a list of the cultivars and their characteristics based on field trials in Florida and North Carolina. A list of nurseries carrying these cultivars can be obtained from Gina Fernandez.

JP1: Will be patented under the name Ruby. Ruby is characterized by its low chilling requirement, open plant type, long fruit stem, easy harvesting characteristics, semi-early production, high yield, large size, conic shape, glossy red color, very firm but also very juicy fruit and sweet flavor. This cultivar is adapted to growing in the major strawberry production areas of the Florida and similar climates.

JP2: Will be patented under the name Gem Star. Gem Star is characterized by its vigorous plant, easy harvesting characteristics, early production, high yield, very large fruit size, good fruit shape, very glossy fruit skin color, good flavor. It appears to have a shorter period of time between flowering and ripe fruit than other cultivars. In Florida, Gem Star is as resistant to anthracnose as Sweet Charlie. The fruit is a conic to long conic shape and bright, light red color. The fruit can have white shoulders but they will turn red if fruit is allowed to ripen a day or two longer. This variety is adapted to growing in the major strawberry production areas of the North Carolina and similar climates.

JP3: Will be patented under the name Treasure. Treasure is characterized by its vigorous plant, anthracnose resistance, long fruit stem, easy harvesting characteristics, early production, very high yield, large fruit size, excellent fruit shape, very firm fruit and very good flavor. In Florida, Treasure is as resistant to anthracnose as Sweet Charlie. The fruit is a conic shape and dark red color. Treasure is adapted to growing in the major strawberry production areas of the Florida and similar climates although field trials are still going on in North Carolina.

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