

Soil fumigation for controlling black root rot can work well, but can also fail under certain conditions. Fumigation sterilizes the soil of pathogens and beneficial organisms. Organisms reintroduced in this “clean” soil grow rapidly in the absence of competi-

tion or predators. Pathogens, even in very small quantities, in soil from non-fumigated areas carried into fumigated areas on shoes, equipment or roots of strawberry transplants, may allow pathogens to build up to high levels. Thus, soil fumigation runs the risk

Table 14. Strawberry cultivar descriptions.

CULTIVAR	SEASON	— DISEASE RESISTANCE <sup>a</sup> —				COMMENTS
		VERTICILLIUM WILT	RED STELE	LEAF DISEASES <sup>b</sup>	POWDER Y MILDEW	
Earliglow	Early	R	R	R	PR	Standard for early varieties; small berry size; excellent flavor, moderate production.
Veestar	Early	R	S	S	S	Early, good flavor and appearance, berry size medium to small, productive.
Sable	Early	U	R	U	U	Early, good flavor, productive. Berry size medium.
Annapolis	Early	R	R	S	S	Large fruit, good flavor but soft, moderate yields.
Mohawk	Early	R	R	R	R	Fruit size may be small, and yields low in far northern areas.
Northeaster	Early	R	R	R	S	Large fruit, strong flavor. Moderate plant vigor.
Honeoye	Early-mid	S	S	PR	S	Large fruit, productive; has performed well in New England, but lack of red stele resistance a concern. Tends to become soft in hot weather; flavor distinctive.
Guardian	Mid	R	R	R	S	Very productive, firm large fruit, sometimes rough (uneven) looking. Botrytis is generally more prevalent. Tends to get a “long neck” which breaks down and is an easy entry for slugs and sap beetles.
Redchief	Mid	PR	R	R	R	Productive, with good color and size. Flavor average. Excellent disease resistance.
Lester	Mid	S	R	R	R	Productive good berry size though size tends to “run down” quickly. Flavor is good. Lacks adequate winter hardiness for northern New England.
Cavendish	Mid	R	R	R	U	Mid-season, productive. Disease resistant, uneven ripening habit.
Kent	Mid	S	S	PR	S	Extremely productive berry with large firm fruit. Tends to yield fruit in middle of rows, resulting in high rot, so keep rows narrow. Flavor average.
Jewel	Mid	S	S	R	PR	Large soft fruit, can be very dark. Tends to soften in hot weather.
Mira	Mid	S	R	R	R	Large fruit, good quality.
Allstar	Mid-late	R-T	R	T	T	Productive, elongated flavorful berries. Has a lighter color than most berries. Good fruit size.
Seneca	Mid-late	S	S	U	U	Fruit large, irregular and firm; plants moderately vigorous.
Mesabi	Mid-late	R	R	PR	U	Productive with good berry size, scarlet color, good flavor. Plants compact, resistant to 5 races of red stele.
Winona	Mid-late	S	R	R	R	Large fruit, vigorous plant.
Lateglow	Late	R	R	PR	S	Productive, good berry size and flavor. First berries extremely large. Low yields in northern New England.
Tribute	Day Neutral	PR	R	T	R	Slightly later than ‘Tristar,’ with larger fruit. Flavor not as strong, and plants are more vigorous.
Tristar	Day Neutral	R	R	T	R	Bears an early crop, smaller than ‘Tribute,’ flavor is excellent. Flesh and skin firm. Moderate vigor. Size reduced when weather is too hot.

<sup>a</sup> I=intermediate, PR=partially resistant, R= resistant, S= susceptible, T= tolerant, U= unknown. <sup>b</sup> Includes leafscorch and leafspot. Adapted from Pennsylvania State University, *Small Fruit Production and Pest Management Guide*. Used by permission.