

One million Radiance slips to be available to sweet potato growers in 2019





Move over Covington and Orleans to make way for the new sweet potato variety known as Radiance which has been developed by Vineland Research and Innovation Centre in collaboration with Louisiana State University. Dr. Valerio Primomo, backed by numerous scientists, researchers, consumer test tasters and marketing people, among others, has spent seven years creating the perfect Canadian sweet potato that performs well in our climate with its shorter growing season; has comparable if not better yields; and tastes pretty good, too.

Dr. Primomo reports that this summer there were nine Ontario growers trying out Radiance. And he's hoping others will get on board.

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Dr. Valerio Primomo, shown in a field of sweet potatoes with some coming into bloom, recently announced the first new Canadian variety of sweet potato, known as Radiance, which was developed at Vineland Research and Innovation Centre in collaboration with Louisiana State University. One million slips of Radiance will be available to growers in time for the 2019 growing season.





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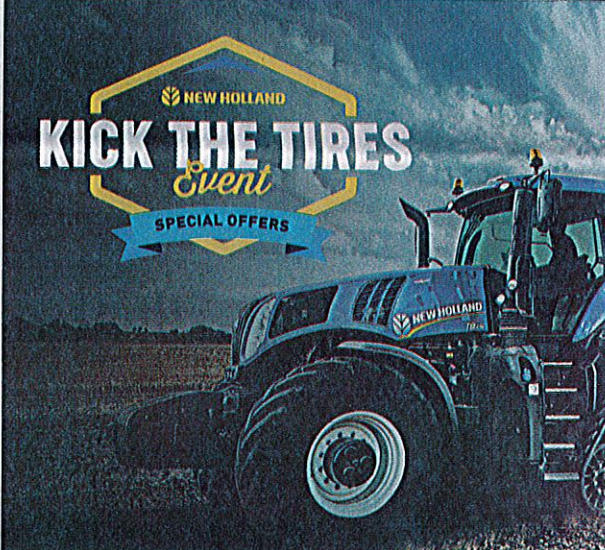


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Courtland Agromart

Local crop input supply will be strengthened by a new partnership between two well established local family operated Agromarts who have proudly served the area for close to fifty years.

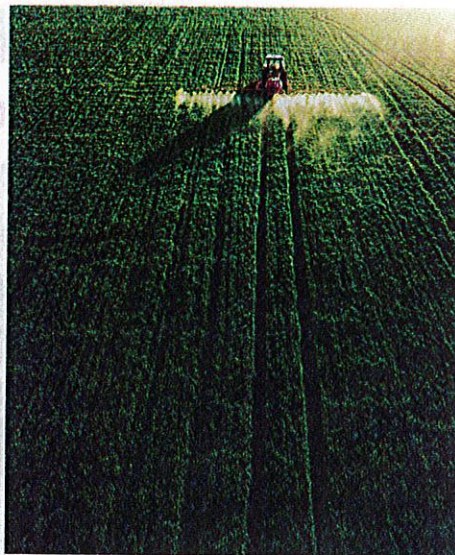
Scotland Agromart and Max Underhill's Farm Supply Ltd. (Vienna and Aylmer) have just joined forces to operate Courtland Agromart at the former Cargill location at 159 Talbot Street in Courtland.

"The staff at Courtland Agromart look forward to enhancing already established business relationships as well as embracing new opportunities", Andrew Sebok said.

Courtland Agromart will offer a complete line of farm inputs, including crop nutrients, crop protection products, soil amendments (ag lime, compost, manure), custom application services, soil testing, crop scouting, agronomics and crop consulting to service the wide range of crops grown in the area.

"The strength of the Agromart model is, a partner/share holder will be on site to make decisions on a day to day basis".

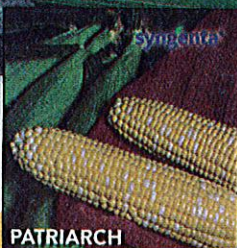
By selling our products with enthusiasm, respecting our customers and living by the Golden Rule: we will strive to be the preferred supplier of crop input products, services and technology in our trading area. 🌱



RAISING THE BAR

Carbonado Gold, the newest powdery mildew tolerant **Rupp** pumpkin variety. It produces gorgeous dark orange, round fruit, with a firmly attached black handle that fills a 40 count bin.

CARBONADO GOLD



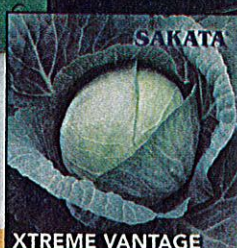
PATRIARCH

The newest Attribute II sweet corn release from **Syngenta** is **Patriarch**. This augmented supersweet hybrid produces a girthy ear with great tip fill, and excellent adaptability.



KATANA

Katana is a new, beefsteak type tomato from **Takii**. It produces uniform, large and firm fruit with tight blossom end and smooth shoulders.



XTREME VANTAGE

Xtreme Vantage is a new 5 to 6 pound cabbage from **Sakata**. This round, blue-green hybrid, provides very good fruit uniformity and disease package.

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One million Radiance slips

Canadian trials are also taking place in British Columbia, Manitoba, Quebec, and Nova Scotia Dr. Primomo said. Trials are also underway in the United States, and in Europe. Feedback has been positive, he said.

Tests show that the Radiance variety, under ideal growing conditions, will mature in about 100 days. Other varieties can take at least 10 days longer. Timing is important because the new Radiance variety has the potential to be on store shelves in time for Thanksgiving, he said.

As well, Radiance has the potential to yield more of those hefty deep orange tubers. In 2019, there will be one million Radiance slips available to farmers preparing for a new growing season.

They will be offered by Roelands Plant Farms Inc. located at Lambton Shores near Sarnia. Orders will be accepted starting in December at a cost of 12 cents per slip.

Roelands and Vineland are currently working together to identify ways to lower the cost per slip. Among consumers, sweet potatoes already have a reputation as being delicious when baked or served as fries. Parents rely upon sweet potatoes as a nutritious food for their babies as they start solid foods; and they are also an important ingredient in high end pet foods. Research, though, continues at Vineland, Dr. Primomo said. We want to reach different markets, such as the Asian market, he noted. 🌱



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