



peppers

Where did peppers come from?

Peppers originated in Central and South America and are popular in many cultures around the world. Growing Ontario greenhouse peppers began in the mid to late 1980's in the Niagara area, since then, Essex, Kent and Lambton Counties also grow Ontario greenhouse peppers – about 492 acres or the size of 276 soccer fields!

How do peppers grow?

Peppers are a warm season crop requiring 3 1/2 to 4 months of frost-free weather to produce lots of peppers, so in Canada, they grow best in greenhouses. However, Ontario and Quebec grow a summer field pepper crop that is harvested in August by hand. Field peppers require a longer growing season so they are started in greenhouses and then transplanted to the field. Most greenhouse peppers in Ontario are produced in hydroponic systems. This means that gravel and a special type of wool are used instead of soil. Greenhouses have computer-controlled temperature, light, nutrients and humidity. Check out this 1.53 minute video on Growing Greenhouse Bell Peppers from NatureFresh Farms <https://www.naturefresh.ca/products/peppers/>

Joke corner

Q. How do you wake up a sleeping pepper?
A. Ring its bell!

Q. What do you call a pizza with just peppers on it?
A. A pepper-only pizza!

Pepper Boats

Cut peppers into big wedges and fill with hummus. Use a pepper strip or carrot wedge as a sail. Enjoy!



Did you know?

- All bell peppers start out green but different varieties have been bred to mature to yellow, red, and orange
- The most common type of peppers grown is the 4-lobed, blocky, sweet bell pepper. Other varieties include mini sweet peppers and long sweet peppers.
- Which greenhouse pepper is the most popular?
 - a. orange
 - b. yellow
 - c. red



Answer: c

Word Search

W	E	S	L	O	R	D	P	A	N
T	H	D	G	N	E	E	R	G	I
A	O	E	Y	S	D	B	F	H	R
G	R	E	E	N	H	O	U	S	E
V	A	S	L	I	W	L	T	E	D
U	N	F	L	E	B	S	R	N	L
L	G	B	O	R	D	L	E	I	F
T	E	E	W	S	I	T	H	V	A
A	N	T	F	A	L	G	N	R	S
N	S	R	E	P	P	E	P	U	B

Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers. Can you pick out these pepper related words in the word search?

- Peppers
- Lobed
- Red
- Greenhouse
- Vines
- Yellow
- Green
- Orange
- Sweet
- Field
- Seeds