



The Pumpkin Vine

September 2011

2011 Pumpkin Patch Tour

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We would like to thank everyone that participated in this year's pumpkin patch marathon. We started up in Brigham City with Ross Bowman's patch. We had a wonderful breakfast of french toast and peaches prepared by Ross and his wife, Kaye. Ross is having a very successful year with four very impressive pumpkins growing in what he terms, the circus tent. His pumpkins are well protected in the shade cloth tent that protects his pumpkins from the wind, excess sun, and hail.



Breakfast at Ross Bowman's house



Bowman's patch

From Brigham City, we drove to Ogden to look at Matt McConkie's and Tyler Quickley's patch. Tyler has some very impressive pumpkins with his biggest one in the 900 lb. range. Matt is also doing well with one pumpkin in the 900 lb. range and another one estimating at 1,100 lbs. These two will be very difficult to beat this year. From Ogden, we drove to Dave



Ice cream at Dave Bradley's house

Bradley's patch in the East Millcreek area. Dave has one pumpkin growing in his backyard and several more on what he terms, "the Farm". We all enjoyed taking a break at his house and enjoying some homemade ice cream prepared by his wife, Cathy.

Our next stop was Taylorsville to see Andrew Israelsen's (me) patch. I lost one of my plants early on to a bad case of fusarium. I could not get any of my pumpkins to blossom on the main vine so I just got rid of it. I have two plants that are still growing. One pumpkin is nearly 900 lbs. and the other is very close to 800 lbs.

Our next stop was Hee Haw Farms where we took a lunch break of barbecue sandwiches, corn on the cob, and barbecued beans.

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Richard Glassford's patch

We then drove to Richard Glassford's patch in Pleasant Grove. Richard grows his pumpkins in a terraced

garden area underneath his fruit trees. He does very well growing his plants in a much smaller area than some of our growers. Richard also has some very impressive long gourds that are already getting close to the state record.

Our last stop was at Kyle Fox's patch. Kyle has a very nice patch that is growing a 700 pounder that has a beautiful dark orange color. Carrie is also growing this year but she says that she will not be winning the intermarriage contest this year.

Weigh Off

We would like to officially announce our weigh off for 2011. Our weigh off this year will be held at Thanksgiving Point on September 24th right in front of the water tower where we held it last year. Registration will go from 8:00 am to 11:00 am. Judging will be from 11:00 am to Noon and then the weigh off will start at noon.

We hope that you will all bring your pumpkins to the weigh off this year. As long as your pumpkin is over 100 pounds we would love to see it weighed at Thanksgiving Point.

I have included a weigh off entry form along with the rules and regulations. Please fill out the entry form and bring it with you to the weigh off.

We will need several volunteers to help out at the weigh off. We will need a lifting crew, a few to help move pumpkins to the scale, a couple people to measure and record pumpkin measurements, and a few for crowd control and other various jobs. If you are available to help out please call Kyle at 801-319-9926. We would appreciate your help very much.

Long gourds, watermelons and tomatoes will also be included in this year's weigh-off. Entry forms and contest rules will be made available on the morning of the event.

Other Weigh Offs & Activities Around the State

October 8th – Vernal Weigh Off. Check in is 10:00, weigh off is 12:00.

October 15 or 22nd - Santequin Weigh Off

1st UGPG Reggatta - **October 28th** @ Liberty Park (or a body of water)

The GIANT PUMPKIN DROP - **October 29th** @ Hee Haw Farms (anyone who brings a giant pumpkin to drop will get a family pass to the park). This is a rare event and a wonderful fall activity.

Hee Haw Farms is looking for a few giants to be used to sponsor the charity pumpkin drop. Anyone interested in putting in for the sponsor drop needs to submit an estimated weight and current picture of the pumpkin to kylefox1@gmail.com. The sponsor drop is for the March of Dimes. 10 cents per pound of all pumpkins dropped will go to the March of Dimes. The sponsored giants are planned to be sold for \$1 pound. For example: 1,000 lbs. = \$1,000; \$900 to the grower, \$100 to March of Dimes or more if grower chooses.

This donation will be in the name of the sponsor. The sponsors will choose from the entries and pick up the pumpkin at the weigh off or Kyle Fox will make arrangements for pick up and delivery two weeks before the drop. The sponsor will enjoy the pumpkin at their place of business until the drop then Kyle will pick up and deliver to Hee Haw Farms.

FYI: Kyle has two moving trucks with lift gates and equipment.



Bowman's patch



Matt McConkie and Tyler Quigley's patch



Matt's pumpkin - the one to beat!



Andrew Israelsen's patch



Kyle Fox's pumpkin

A Big Thank You!

We would like to thank Tyler Quigley for all his time and effort with our organization. Due to some new time commitments, Tyler will be stepping down as the Sponsorship Coordinator Vice President. We have really enjoyed working with Tyler and appreciate all the help he gave us. He is a great friend and we will miss working with him. If you would like to run for this position in our organization, please contact Andrew Israelsen at 801-966-1070 or by email, aisraelsen@comcast.net.

Hats and Shirts

We still have the new hats and T-shirts for the UGPG. Hats will be offered for \$15, short sleeve tees for \$20 and long sleeve tees for \$25. We will have the merchandise available at the weigh off. To pre order, please email Matt McConkie at isellutah@gmail.com

2011 UGPG Weigh Off Entry Form

Utah Giant Pumpkin Growers 7th Annual Weigh off at Thanksgiving Point, Lehi, Utah

Growers Name (please print) _____

Current Member: YES or NO If No fill out middle section.

Pumpkin ____ Squash ____ Sound ____ Damaged ____

seed (f) _____ pollinator (m) _____ poll. date _____

start date _____ sq ft _____ feet out _____ lobes ____ main vine Y N

Circ. ____ f-b ____ s-s ____ OTT _____ Est.wt. _____

Signature _____ Date _____

By signing this form the applicant agrees to the rules & regulations.

Membership Application _____ A membership is \$20.00 from Jan-Dec 2010

Mailing Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Home Phone _____ Other Phone _____

The Rules & Regulations

- 1.) This contest is open to UGPG members only. UGPG Membership is \$20.00 per calendar year.
- 2.) "The entry" must be a Cucurbita sp. specimen that was grown by the exhibitor (person signing this document).
- 3.) Entry is limited to one specimen per grower. Please be honest.
- 4.) Minimum weight for an entry is 100 lbs.
- 5.) Additional specimens are welcome, but are ineligible for prizes.
- 6.) Heaviest sound entry wins.
- 7.) A Pumpkin will be defined as 50% or more orange, red, yellow, cream or a combination thereof.
- 8.) A Squash will be defined as more than 50% green, gray, blue or a combination thereof.
- 9.) The entry will be sound without significant soft spots, cracks, or holes through to the cavity. Any material used to seal a breach must be removed for inspection. Judges will probe cracks to determine soundness. Refusal to submit to inspection will result in disqualification. The judge's rulings are final.
- 10.) The entry must be clean & free of dirt or chemical residues. The vine must be trimmed within one inch of the stem. No foreign material may be included with the entry on the scale.
- 11.) The three Judges are; three club/grower representatives.
- 12.) Any attempt to coerce or influence a judge is grounds for disqualification at the discretion of the UGPG executive board.
- 13.) If a judge has a fruit entered and should the entry require a Judge's ruling, then the entered Judge will be replaced by another grower until after the final decision is made.
- 14.) Registration begins at 8:00 AM. All entries must be on the ground staged for inspection by 11:00 AM. All entries must arrive on a pallet.
- 15.) Neither Thanksgiving Point nor the UGPG will be responsible for any damages caused to any person(s) or specimen(s) at this event.
- 16.) Exhibitor must be present with his or her pumpkin to win, unless other arrangements have been made prior to the weigh off.

Prizes have not been finalized.

UTAH GIANT PUMPKIN GROWERS www.utahpumpkingrowers.com

UTAH GIANT PUMPKIN GROWERS 2011 WEIGH OFF
SATURDAY SEPT. 24th
at
THANKSGIVING POINT
LEHI, UTAH 84043
www.thanksgivingpoint.com

Registration is from 8 am till 11 am. Bring each pumpkin on a pallet.

Judging is from 11 am till noon.

Weigh off starts at Noon.

Up to two pumpkins per grower are allowed but only one will count toward prizes. If desired, extra pumpkins may be weighed contact Kyle, Andrew or Matt in advance.

Cash Prize Structure for 2011

- 1st - \$1000
- 2nd - \$600
- 3rd - \$400
- 4th - \$250
- 5th - \$100
- 6th - \$75
- 7th - \$75
- 8th - \$75
- 9th - \$50
- 10th - \$50
- 11th - Shirt
- 12th - Shirt
- 13th - Shirt
- 14th - Shirt
- 15th - Shirt
- 16th - Shirt
- 17th - Shirt
- 18th - Shirt
- 19th - Shirt
- 20th - Shirt