The ‘Kanza’ and ‘Excel’ Pecan Cultivars

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‘Kanza’ Pecan

• History
  – Released in 1996 by the USDA
  – Cross of ‘Major’ x ‘Shoshoni’ in 1955
  – Tested as 55-11-11
  – Primarily released for the northern pecan belt.
  – Most common grafted cultivar in Oklahoma.
Productivity of ‘Kanza’

- Not precocious in Tifton trial.

- Good production in mature trees.

- 'Kanza' considered very precocious in Okla. by Dr. Mike Smith.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cultivar</th>
<th>Years 1-10</th>
<th>Years 11-20</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kanza</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cape Fear</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sumner</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pawnee</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Results from Tifton variety trials.*
'Kanza' alternates as a mature tree! But, quality remains good in the ON year.
‘Kanza’ Nut Quality

74 nuts / lb.

52% kernel

- Thick shell.
- Round, well-filled kernel.
- Bright golden color.
- Cracks and shells well.
## Similarity to 'Elliot'

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Nuts / lb.</th>
<th>% Kernel</th>
<th>Maturity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kanza</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>Oct. 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elliot</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>Oct. 12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Pest Resistance of 'Kanza'

- Very resistant to pecan scab.
  - None seen in Okla. in wet 2004 on unsprayed trees.
  - None seen in sprayed Tifton variety trial.
  - Similar to 'Elliot' in Auburn tests.
- Resistant to powdery mildew in Okla.
- Susceptible to brown spot in Okla.
- Not favored by crows as compared to other early cultivars like 'Pawnee'
Other factors.

• Very cold hardy.
• Leaves turn yellow and drop early.
• Late pollen shed, early receptivity.
  – Matches: 'Desirable', 'Caddo', 'Cape Fear', 'Pawnee', 'Oconee'
• Has not been planted much in Southeast.
Recommendation

• Replacement for 'Elliot' in the north of the state and in low spots where freeze damage is likely on 'Elliot'.

• Good low-input choice.

• Recommended for trial in the south.
'Excel' pecan

• Originated in Blackshear Ga. as a seedling selection by Mr. Andy Clough

• Has been patented and is sold by Andy and Chris Clough.

• Possible 'Pierce' x 'Success' seedling.

• Parent tree is 30 years old.

*Picture from Dr. Bill Goff
# ‘Excel’ Nut Quality

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<tr>
<td>Excel</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Data from Tifton in 2005.*

- Thick shell reduces % kernel.
- Light kernel color.
- Early harvest.
'Excel' scab resistance.

- No scab infection reported so far.
- Not widely planted prior to 2000.

No scab on unsprayed trees in Clough orchard in 2005.
Other notes

• Large cluster size.
• Sparse foliage.
• Weeping growth form.
• Difficult to graft.
• Has not been precocious in our test.
• Receptive to pollen mid-season, sheds pollen late.
  – Matches: Desirable, Pawnee, Cape Fear
Recommendation

• Recommend for low-input situations.
• Recommended *FOR TRIAL* for commercial use.
  
  – Be prepared to crop thin mature trees (if possible).
The Tifton pecan variety tests are supported by the Georgia Agricultural Commodity Commission for Pecan.