slightly to the pit at soft ripe. We have judged 'Flordaglobe' as more attractive and superior in flavor to 'Flordaking'. Pits are medium-small and have a low (less than 'Flordaking') tendency to split.

Trees of 'Flordaglobe' are self-fertile, moderately vigorous, and productive. Leaves are medium in size, with reniform petiolar glands. Resistance of leaves and fruit to bacterial spot is high and about equal to 'Flor-

daking'. Flowers are light pink and showy. Pollen is abundant and bright yellow.

Availability

Budwood has been released to commercial nurseries. Inquiries regarding availability of budwood can be directed to Florida Foundation Seed Producers, Inc., P.O. Box 309, Greenwood, FL 32443. Limited quantities of nonindexed budwood maybe obtained from

the AREC-Monticello, Rt. 4, Box 4092, Monticello, FL 32344-9302.

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'Charlee' Watermelon

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The three major watermelon cultivars in Florida are 'Charleston Gray', 'Crimson Sweet', and 'Jubilee'. 'Charleston Gray' was introduced in 1954 and quickly was established as the leading cultivar for commercial production in Florida. 'Jubilee' and 'Crimson Sweet', both introduced in 1963, also became important commercial cultivars in Florida and other states.

In more recent years, 'Crimson Sweet' has become increasingly popular with growers because of its high yield and high level of resistance to fusarium wilt. Conversely, commercial plantings of 'Jubilee' and 'Charleston Gray' have decreased, principally -because of their lower level of resistance to wilt compared with 'Crimson Sweet'.

In 1971, a backcrossing program was begun to incorporate the high-level wilt resistance of 'Smoky lee', 'Texas W5', and 'Calhoun Gray' into 'Jubilee' and 'Charleston Gray'. Tests of backcross lines, conducted since 1978, showed that they were superior to the recurrent parent lines not only in resistance to fusarium wilt, but in many other characteristics. Selfing, with concomitant selection for both wilt resistance and desirable plant and fruit characters, was initiated in these backcross progenies in 1979. In subsequent years, both replicated and grower trials were conducted. 'Charlee', which was tested as SCWT 257 and Florida F83CE in 1984, 1985, and 1986 trials, is the first cultivar to be released from the backcrossing program.

Origin

'Charlee' originated from a cross made in 1962 between 'Texas W5', which is highly resistant to fusarium wilt, and 'Charleston Gray' (Fig. 1). After several years of selfing, a *cross was made in 1971 with 'Calhoun Gray', which is also highly resistant to wilt. Following that cross, there were four crosses with USDA 51-27 ('Charleston Gray') and 11 selfings, the last four of which followed the final cross with USDA 51-27 in 1978. A seed increase in isolation (F83CE) of the final self-pollination (82M21-5), was made in Fall 1983. Seed from this planting was fur-

nished to the Florida Foundation Seed Producers, Inc., for increase and release as the new cultivar Charlee.

Description

Plants of 'Charlee' are vigorous and prolific, comparing favorably with 'Charleston Gray'. Fruits of both cultivars ripen in early midseason.

Fruits of 'Charlee' are similar to those of 'Charleston Gray' and 'Charleston Gray #5' in size, shape, and weight (Table 1). They are remarkably uniform in both exterior and interior appearance (Fig. 2). Flesh is an attractive red, but not as intense as that of 'Dixielee'. Sugar content, expressed as percent soluble solids concentration of the juice, is not significantly different from 'Charleston Gray' or 'Charleston Gray #5'. In organoleptic samplings, conducted as part of four replicated tests in 1983 and 1984, in which three or four experienced evaluators participated, flesh texture and flavor of 'Charlee' rated higher than those of 'Charleston Gray', 'Jubilee', 'Crimson Sweet'

Table 1. Characteristics of ripe fruits of 'Charlee', 'Charleston Gray', and 'Charleston Gray #5' at Leesburg, Fla., in 1984.

Characteristic	Charlee	Charleston Gray	Charleston Gray #5
Range of weights (kg)			
Maximum	13.6	16.3	13.6
Minimum	8.6	7.7	9.1
Mean wt (kg)	10.4	11.8	10.9
Length (cm)	44.7	42.7	46.0
Diameter (cm)	20.8	21.4	21.1
Shape ratio (L/D)	2.15	2.00	2.18
Rind thickness (mm)	19.0	15.2	15.8
Soluble solids concn (%)	10.8	10.0	10.5
Flesh color	Red	Red	Red

Table 2. Flesh texture and flavor of ripe fruits of 'Charlee' and several other cultivars at Leesburg, Fla., in 1983 and 1984.

Cultivar	Trial ^{a,v}							
	Spring 1983		Fall 1983		Spring 1984		Fall 1984	
	Texture	Flavor	Texture	Flavor	Texture	Flavor	Texture	Flavor
Charlee	4.7 a	4.2 a	5.3 a	5.0 a	4.6 a	4.3 a	4.4 a	3.5 a
Jubilee	3.8 a	3.3 a	3.3 b	3.8 b	4.5 a	3.7 ab	3.4 ab	3.3 a
Charleston Gray	3.5 a	3.5 a	3.5 b	4.3 b	---	---	2.3 b	2.8 a
Charleston Gray #5	---	---	---	---	3.3 b	2.7 c	3.0 ab	2.8 a
Crimson Sweet	---	---	---	---	3.8 ab	3.3 bc	---	---

^aScale for grading flesh texture and flavor: 0 = poor, 6 = excellent.

^vMean separation in columns by Duncan's multiple range test^P = 0.05.

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[illegible]

BC₁₋₃ = Backcross 1-3 generations

Cultivar	Anthracnose infection (%)	
	Greenhouse ^a	Field ^b
Charlee	0	0
Charleston Gray	0	0
Charleston Gray #5	41	20
Charleston Gray #6	90	100
Calhoun Gray	100	100
New Hampshire Midget	100	100

Cultivar	Wilt (%)	
	Greenhouse ^a	Field ^b
Charlee	0	24
Calhoun Gray	0	12
Charleston, Gray	33	54
New Hampshire Midget	100	100

813