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WEST VIRGINIA PRODUCE RECORDS SET IN 2017

Charleston, W.Va. – The West Virginia Department of Agriculture (WVDA) announced four new produce records were established in 2017. Produce or fruit eligible for records must follow several rules including being grown in West Virginia and within one season.

“We’re the only state in the region that has this type of program. We see it as a fun way to encourage farming while bring attention to our gardeners throughout the state,” said West Virginia Commissioner of Agriculture Kent Leonhardt.

Dustin Trychta of Morgantown set the new standards in three categories. His mammoth 38.6 lb. cantaloupe shattered the previous record of 27.45 lbs. held since 2011 by Glen Knox. He also set records in two new categories, heaviest carrot at 2 lb. 6.88 oz. and heaviest cucumber at 10.77 lb.

Robert Cyrus’ 1,407 lb. pumpkin was the top entry at the West Virginia Pumpkin Festival and set a new state record. The previous record was set in 2006 by Scott Wotring at 1,157 lbs.

“The rules and categories have been a bit more formalized in recent years. This keeps the program manageable and as fair as practically possible,” Leonhardt said.

New categories include carrot by weight, cucumber by weight, pawpaw by weight, sunflower by head diameter and zucchini by length.

For a complete list of rules and regulations, as well as current record holders visit here:

<https://agriculture.wv.gov/divisions/marketinganddevelopment/Pages/Fruit-and-Vegetable-Records.aspx>.