

Ian Hodgson’s courgette table

Grown in an urban garden in Cambridgeshire, 2010

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cultivar name	fruit type and size	plant habit and size	performance	disease resistance	sources
Alberello di Sarzana	Elongate, 30 x 10cm (12 x 4in), light green, ribbed, silver speckled. Long stalked.	Low, spreading 60cm (2ft) dia. Leaf dissected with silvery blotches Stalk rough and toothed.	Good	Mildewed by end of season	Seeds of Italy
Atena F ₁	Elongate, 30 x 7.5cm (12 x 3in), with green stalk, custard yellow, smooth	Open habit 60cm (2ft) dia, long, rough, toothed stalks,dissected leaves	Good	Mildewed by end of season	DT Brown, Suttons, Marshalls.
Bolognese	Oval 15 x 10cm (6 x 4in) dia. Light green, marbled and speckled.	Compact, leafy habit 60cm (2ft) dia. Leaves boldly lobed, splashed silver, stalks thin, occ toothed.	Average	Became mildewed	Seeds of Italy
Black Jack F ₁	Elongate 30 x 10cm (12 x 4in), mid-green, with silver speckling	Compact plant 60cm (2ft) dia,leaf with silver blotching. Stalks toothed	Average	Became mildewed	Seeds of Italy
Brice F ₁	Round, 15cm (6in) dia, ribbed on shoulder, veined and marbled pale ivory. Short stalk.	Compact plant 45cm (18in) dia, stalk long, stout and toothed.	Good to season end		Unwins
Buckingham F ₁	Elongate, 30 x 5cm dia (12 x 2in), ribbed, yellow,turning orange/ yellow	Large plants, open habit. Leaves coarse, lobed. Stalks strong, highly toothed	Prolific to end of season	Became mildewed	Seeds of Distinction, Suttons, Mr Fothergills
Defender F ₁	Oval, 15 x 5cm (6 x 2in), slightly ribbed pale striped, slightly speckled	Compact 45cm (18in) dia, lobed leaves Stalks thin, flexible, bristly	Good	Late to mildew	DT Brown, Mr Fothergills, Suttons, Thompson & Morgan
Eight Ball	Round, dark green 15 x 10cm dia (6 x 4in)	Compact plant, 45cm (18in) dia, leaves lobed. Stalks rough, toothed, but flexible.	Prolific to end of season	Became mildewed	Dobies, Plants of Distinction, Unwins
Endurance F ₁	Elongate, 30 x 10cm dia (12 x 4in), olive green, slightly ribbed.	Large, leafy plants, 90cm (3ft) dia. Stalks stout, rough,occ toothed	Good	Became mildewed	DT Brown, Mr Fothergills, Suttons
Fiorentino	Elongate 30 x 7.5cm dia (12 x 3in). Dark, striped pale green, marbled. Prominently ribbed	Large, leafy 60cm (2ft) dia. Long stalks, occ toothed.	Good, but swells unevenly in drought.	Became mildewed	Seeds of Italy
Firenze F ₁	Elongate 35 x 7.5cm dia (14 x 3in). Dark green, smooth	Open habit, leaves lobed, mottled silver. Stalks stout, occ toothed.	Average, fruits often tapered to nipple in dry conditions	Became mildewed	Mr Fothergills, Plants of Distinction
Floridor F ₁	Round, 12.5cm (5in) dia, yellow, with occ green star and ribbing at stalk. Very decorative	Compact, 45cm (18in) dia. Stalks pliable, thin, not toothed.	Excellent to end of season. Fruits consistent in size	Very late to mildew	DT Brown, Mr Fothergills
Genovese	Elongate, 35 x 7.5cm dia (14 x 3in). Pale green, marbled and speckled all over. Ribbed at shoulder	Compact, 45cm (18in) dia with boldly lobed leaves. Stalks smooth, flexible, occ toothed	Average, fruit swells unevenly in drought	Some mildewing	Seeds of Italy
Golden Delight	Elongate, 35 x 10cm (14 x 4in), upward pointing when young. Yellow, smooth, tapering to flower end.	Large plants, 60cm (2ft)+ in dia, coarse lobed leaves. Open habit. Stalks long, stout,well toothed.	Prolific throughout season. Fruit prone to spit if watering is uneven	Became mildewed	Unwins
Gold Rush F ₁	Elongate, 25 x 5cm (10 x 2in). Golden yellow, sl ribbing. Long stalk.	Compact 45cm (18in) dia. Leaves small lobed. Stalks short, flexible, occ toothed.	Prolific throughout season	Late to mildew	Seeds of Italy
Greyzini F ₁	Elongate, 30 x 5cm (12 x 2in). Olive green, ribbed pale green. Strongly marbled. Very decorative.	Fairly compact 45cm (18in) dia. Leaves strongly lobed and silvered. Long pliable stalks, rough and toothed.	Not very productive. Fruit prone to rot at end if not picked.	Some mildewing	Seeds of Italy
Kojac F ₁	Elongate, 45 x 12.5cm dia (18 x 5in). Dark green, smooth, sl ribbing.	Stout plants with large leaves 60–90cm (2–3ft) dia. Leaves boldly lobed. Stalks thick, quite smooth.	Biggest grower. Average cropping. Quick to grow into large fruit.	Quick to mildew and show deterioration.	Seeds of Distinction
Lungo Bianco	Elongate, quick to mature to 60 x 10cm (24 x 4in) curved fruit. Pale green, smooth, strongly ribbed.	Stout plants 60cm (2ft)+ dia, apt to sprawl. Leaves strongly lobed. Stalks thick, well toothed.	Not prolific, fruits quick to mature if not picked regularly. Skin easily damaged.	Mildewed eventually	Seeds of Italy
Midnight F ₁	Elongate, 30 x 12.5cm dia (12 x 5in). Dark green, smooth, sl ribbing.	Compact, but open habit 30cm (12in)+ dia. Leaves dissected, stalks stout, rough, not toothed	Good productivity, consistent quality fruits	Mildewed eventually	Mr Fothergills, Seeds of Distinction, Suttons
Nero di Melano	Elongate, reaching 60 x 12.5cm dia (24 x 5in). Dark green, speckled silver. Ribbed at shoulder	Medium grower, 45cm (18in)+ dia. Leaves lobed, speckled silver. Stalks stout, coarsely toothed.	Good to end of season	Mildewed eventually	Seeds of Italy
Novodiamant F ₁	Elongate,reaching 45 x 12.5cm dia (18 x 5in) Dark green, smooth.	Upright habit, leaves speckled silver. Stalks stout, long. Decorative.	Quite prolific	Quick to mildew	Seeds of Italy
One Ball	Round, 12.5–15cm (5–6in) dia. Yellow, with green star at shoulder. Occ green patching. Smooth, with ribbing at stalk. Very decorative.	Compact, but open habit. 45cm (18in)+ dia. Large leaves. Stalks thin, flexibly toothed.	Prolific to end of season	Slow to mildew	Dobies, Seeds of Distinction, Suttons
Pasqueline F ₁	Elongate to 30 x 7.5cm dia (12 x 3in). Dark green,specked pale green stripes. Smooth. V attractive.	Open, sparse leafed habit 45cm (18in) dia. Leaves v lobed. Stalks long, rough, v toothed.	Prolific to end of season, but swell unevenly in drought and abort young fruit.	Mildewed eventually	DT Brown
Romano F ₁	Elongate, to 30 x 7.5cm dia (12 x 3in). Light green, speckled with pale ribs.	Large plants 60cm (2ft) dia. Leaves lobed, stalks stout, strongly toothed.	Quite productive	Mildewed eventually	DT Brown
Rugosa Friluana	Elongate, to 30 x 5cm dia (12 x 2in). Pale ivory/yellow, softly hairy when young, increasingly warted/knobbly with age. Thin skinned. Extraordinary.	Plants large 60cm (2ft) dia, sprawling with age. Foliage maple-like. Stalks short, thick and toothed.	Averagely productive to end of season. Fruits damage easily or rot if on wet soil due to thin skin.	Prone to mildew	Seeds of Italy
Tondo di Nizza	Oval, 15 x 10cm (6 x 4in). Pale green, with silvery veining and marbling. Slightly ribbed on shoulder, long stalked. V attractive.	Plants large 60cm (2ft) dia. Compact habit. Leaves maple-like. Stalks long, stout and toothed	Fairly productive to end of season	Prone to mildew	Seeds of Italy
Tuscany F ₁	Elongate, to 30 x 7.5cm (12 x 3in). Dark green even when young, slightly ribbed at shoulder.	Small, compact plants 30cm (12in)+ dia. Neat leaves on long stalks, smooth, occ toothed.	Productive to end of season. Fruit swells unevenly in dry conditions.	Little indication of mildew	Marshalls, Plants of Distinction
Soleil F ₁	Elongate, to 30 x 7.5cm (12 x 3in). Bright yellow, smooth, with slight ribbing.	Plant compact, 30cm (12in)+ dia. Open habit. Neat foliage, leaves lobed. Stalks rough and toothed	Prolific cropper to end of season and in dry conditions.	Little indication of mildew	Plants of Distinction, Thompson & Morgan
Striato di Napoli	Elongate, to 60 x 7.5cm (24 x 3in), curved when old. Evenly striped dark and light green. Prominently ribbed.	Large, sprawling habit when old. Leaves deeply lobed, stalks long, rough, v toothed.	Average cropper, but needs constant harvest to stimulate cropping.	Prone to mildew	Seeds of Italy
Summer Ball	Oval fruit, 15 x 10cm dia (6 x 4in). Bright yellow, smooth, slight ribbing on shoulders. Short stalked.	Medium grower, 45cm (18in) dia. Leaves lobed. Stalks long, flexible. Coarsely toothed.	Reasonably prolific to end of season, even in drought.	Some mildew present at end of season	Plant of Distinction, Suttons, Thompson & Morgan
Verde d’Italia	Elongate, to 60 x 10cm dia (24 x 4in). Dark green, strongly striped and ribbed pale green. Smooth.	Large, strong growing plant, 60cm (2ft)+ dia. Leaves large, lobed and dissected. Stalks long, stout, occ toothed.	Average cropper	Little mildew present until end of season	Seeds of Italy
Yolanda F ₁	Elongate, to 30 x 5cm dia (12 x 2in). Shiny	Compact, open habit, 18in dia. Leaves neat, stalks pliable, weakly toothed.	Good, consistent cropper	Mildew appeared by end of season.	Mr Fothergills, Suttons
summer squash Custard White	Disc-like, with lobed edges, 15cm (6in) dia x 5cm (2in) deep. Matt white. V attractive and unusual.	Plants variable, large 60cm (2ft)+ dia, sprawling when old. Maple-like foliage. Stalks long, v toothed.	Average cropper, improving as season progressed, and beyond many courgettes.	Only slightly affected by mildew.	Seeds of Italy