



Don Langevin from Norton MA, and Dick Wallace from Greene RI, inducted into GPC Hall of Fame! See story inside.

The Torch was passed from Ron Wallace to Joe Jutras, at Niagara, for World Record 1689 pound Pumpkin!

All Hail the new Champ... and ... All Hail the Pumpkin King

2008 brings with it the lore of some unbelievable achievements by last years Champions. But records are meant to be broken and in 2007 the growers did not disappoint. Some tough records fell..... and some did not. This table shows the leadership standings in some of the popular categories. ***World Record**

Category	Previous Record	2007
Giant Pumpkin	1502 lbs: Ron Wallace Greene, RI (2006)	*1689 lbs: Joe Jutras N. Smithfield, RI
Giant Squash	1131 lbs: Brant Tim Pembroke, Ontario (2006)	*1234 lbs: Brad Wurston Netherlands
Long Gourd	126.5" by Joe Jutras N. Smithfield, RI (2006)	*127.56 inches Leonardo Urena from Napa, CA
Giant Tomato	*7lbs12 oz: Gordon Graham Edmond, OK(1986)	4.59 lbs: Chris Lyons Toronto, Ontario
Watermelon	*268 lbs: Loyld Bright Hope, Arkansas (2005)	255 lbs: Marvin Mitchell Fenton, MI

Howard Dill is still undisputedly and singularly the most important person in the world of Giant Pumpkin Growing. He is very proud of the 1689 Jutras, and also offers kudos to Don Young for the 1662, and Dan McKie for the 1631. For 25 years the heritage of those original "Dills Atlantic Seeds" have always been in our minds. Howards mission to continue to provide top quality seeds, still is one of the primary reason the sport continues to flourish. He brings countless new growers into the sport every year, with his worldwide distribution of about 2000 lbs of seeds per year. How did this man, who was born in Windsor, Hants County, Nova Scotia about 72 years ago, isolate this strain of seeds and create Howard Dill Enterprises. Well in the Dill family it really started in the 1920's,



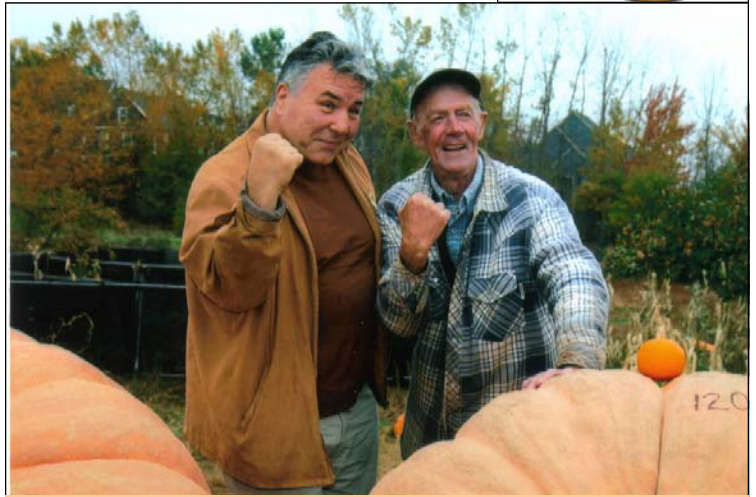
We were lucky enough to keep the Giant Pumpkin, World Record in the "Biggest Little State in the Union" for another year, thanks to Joe Jutras. And as you can see the Orange Jacket was passed from Ron Wallace to Joe Jutras at Niagara in Ontario, this March 2008.



Then there was the SEED PROMO. 50 packages were offered to the members at a fire sale price. The list shown below shows some of the seeds that were in each package. We had 100 offers in 5 days. So to make things even for our local and international members we randomly picked 50 winning names from a hat. I would have to say that the genetics are out there, and we could see new records in 2008.

Here are 1/2 of the donated Promo seeds

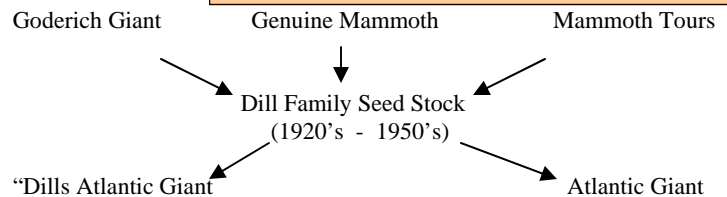
1689 Jutras	1352 Jutras	1130 Jutras
1566 Rodonis	1350 Wallace	1125 Williams
1537 Stelts	1347 Sherwood	1125 Werner
1535 Glasier	1317 Oliver	1089 Stelts
1527 Stelts	1306 Jutras	1077 Gansert
1524 Starr	1300 Wallace	1075 Scherber
1521 Razo	1297 Ghaye	1071 Jutras
1502 Wallace	1288 Connolly	1068 Papez
1470 Wallace	1259 Michaud	1066 Starr
1465 Sluzerak	1223 Noel	1054 Noel
1462 Gibson	1207 Young	1044 Starr
1423 Wallace	1191 Northrop	1032 Stelts
1402 Bosworth	1182 Parenty	1018 VanHook
1388 Larue	1180 Pukos	1017 Rondeau
1385 Jutras	1174 Ghaye	1013 Williams
1387 Connolly	1161 Rodonis	1012 Simpson



4 time World Giant Pumpkin Champ, Howard Dill, with Former Heavyweight boxing champ, George Chivalo, at Dills Farm, in Windsor, Nova Scotia CANADA.

when an amateur pumpkin fancier named William Dill of Windsor Nova Scotia started crossing several varieties of Squash and Pumpkin seeds (including Goderich Giants, Genuine Mammoth and Mammoth Tours), under garden conditions. The selected seeds were saved each year for the next years planting by William until the 1950s. Then during the 50's and 60's his son, a young Howard Dill, developed an interest in large pumpkins, and developed a self managed selection process using the family seed stock. Hand pollination and selection techniques were practiced and recorded until 1973, when it was apparent to Howard that two strains were isolated; one producing mature fruit which was tall and wide and the other, long and not as tall.

The outline below describes the roots of today's giants.



Howard knew he had something, and he had to protect the "Dills Atlantic Giant" so in 1986, with the help of Ray Waterman from the WPC, a New York Corporation was set up for Howard so he could file for USDA Plant Variety Protection (PVP) in Canada. This was the botanical worlds version of a patent. And for eighteen years it reigned supreme. Howards namesake was now attached to the seed, and big companies could not muscle in. He let us growers selectively cross pollinate, trade or sell the seeds, We had free reign to do whatever we wanted, and in doing so Dill Enterprises Ltd grew and the namesake "Dill's Atlantic Giant" grew with it, to achieve the stratospheric weights we see today.

In addition to his contribution to the popularization of Pumpkin growing, Mr. Dill's capacity to teach, instruct and inform thousands of visitors to his farm each year on agricultural matters is an invaluable asset that will be carried with the visitors for years to come. School buses by the hundreds visit his farm yearly for a hands on learning experience which could never be duplicated in the classroom.

It is because of the Atlantic Giant seeds developed by Howard, that

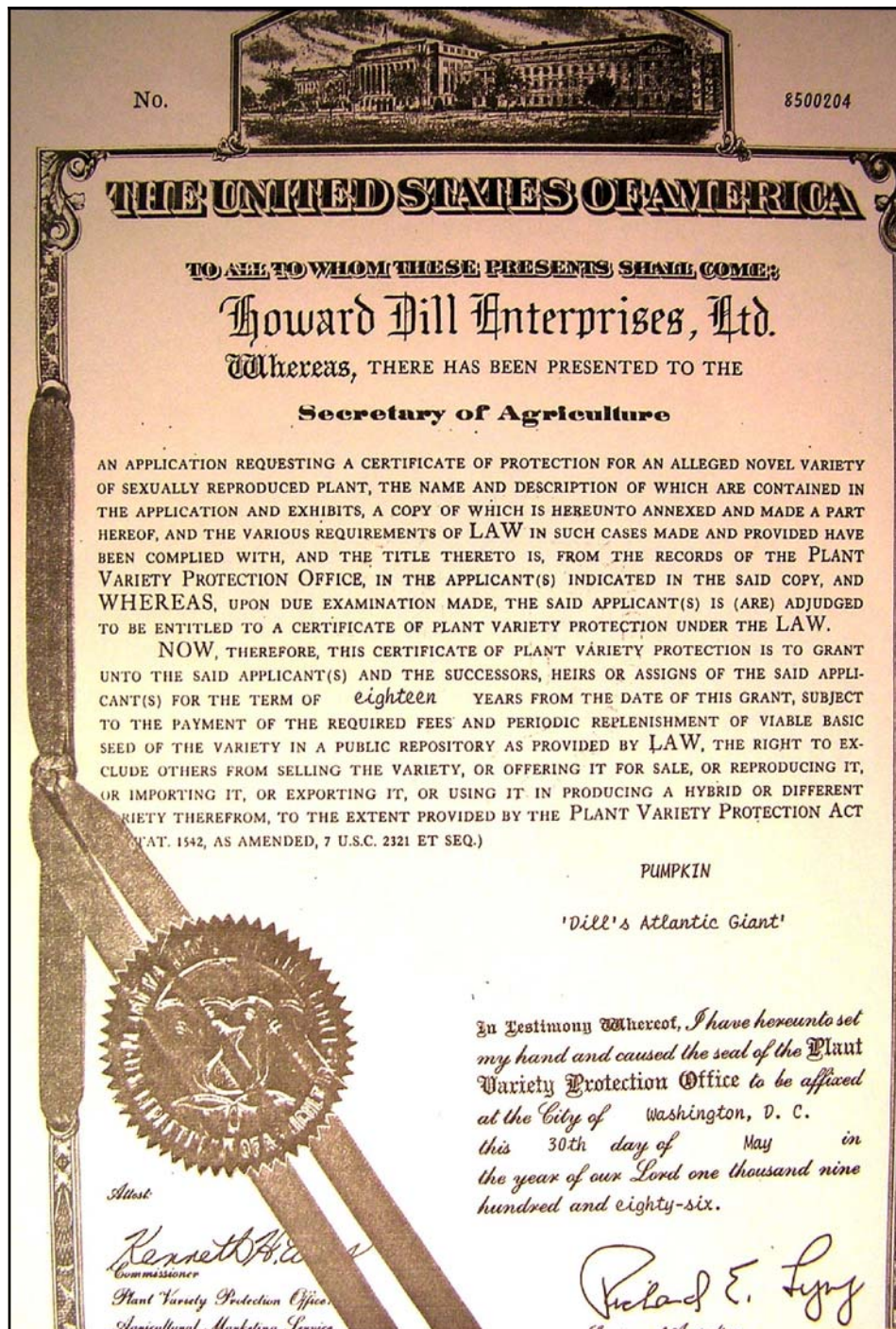


Pumpkin Festivals and pumpkin weight competitions take place in countless communities an many countries, where entrants compete for World titles and substantial monetary prizes. In his book The Pumpkin King, Al Kingsbury has stated "The Atlantic Giant is being grown each year by an estimated 10,000 serious competitors and perhaps millions of home gardeners". And despite having no formal education in genetics, Howard, for his contributions to heightening the awareness of agricultural practices has been presented as an Honorary Associate of the Nova Scotia Agricultural College

As once stated by N. Rigoloso. "We are fortunate indeed that it was Howard who developed the Atlantic Giants we use in our mighty pursuits. If we have received national and international acclaim for our mastery as pumpkin growers and gardeners, then we are constrained to confess the name of Howard Dill to one and all. Special people like Howard Dill represent Everyman. Howard has always been there



Howard had this one close to 1000 pounds in the 1980's. That was 10 years before the 1/2 ton barrier was broken.



for us. Offering kind words of encouragement, and because he does not forget us, we will not forget him. People like Howard are a light to the world.

Howard, You are undoubtedly the Babe Ruth of Pumpkin Growers, The Sultan of Squash, the King of Cucurbits, the Monarch of Landwhalers: Moby Dill, and on behalf of your multitude of friends worldwide. we say to you the words that are rightfully yours. You are a great man, revered and cherished in our hearts. You have earned the right to live within us, and for your graciousness, kindness, and humanity you will live within the hearts of all who love the light and shun the darkness. The impact of your life, long after you have passed, will remain alive in the spirit that drives mankind to decency, compassion, and brother-

hood. The footprints of your life will not be washed away by water, blown away by wind, or erased from our memory by time. God bless you for what you have given us and what you will give future generations. And with people like you Howard the best is yet to come.

