

How-to-Grow World Class Giant Pumpkins III

Paul and Steve Handy

If your pickup truck body is only 65" wide, you best not grow anything bigger than that, and that's precisely what Paul Handy did in 2001 with a pumpkin he grew at 64.5" wide – and 1167 pounds. The state of Washington is known for big things: *Big Foot*, big trees, and big pumpkins, and in 2001, both Paul and Geneva Emmons, also from WA, brought big pumpkins to bear on the world record set in 2000 by Dave Stelts at 1140 pounds. Geneva claimed a new world record at a staggering 1262 pounds, and the 1167 remains the second largest pumpkin ever grown in WA, and the eleventh in the world all-time.

Paul has been a leading grower in the Pacific Northwest for many years, and his kind and

humorous personality has made him a perennial favorite with growers in both Washington and Oregon.

Son, Steve is no slouch either. In 2002 he reined in a 1112.5 pound pumpkin, which ranks seventeenth all time in the world. In fact, Washington growers account for 6 spots in the top-20, all-time, all-world rankings. Geneva Emmons appears three times, the Handy's twice, and David Larsen, with an 1156 pound pumpkin in 2002, ranks twelfth.

The Handy seeds have also been significant producers. Their seeds, in the hands of others, have produced many 800, 900, and 1000+ pound pumpkins.

