

Canada" Finest – Ben Hebb

Ben is a dairy farmer from Bridgewater, Nova Scotia, Canada, not far from the birthplace of the *Atlantic Giant* pumpkin variety and the home of Howard Dill in Windsor. He's been growing AGs for eleven years and has always thought that his competitive nature, and his love of growing things, met a perfect match with growing giant pumpkins.

He has two young children, and his wife, Donna, is a nurse. The farming is hard, the weather sometimes brutal, but the joy of living family life on a farm surpasses all the sacrifices. And with that kind of love devoted to family and farming, he brings an awesome arsenal of personal virtues to bear on the growing of giant pumpkins and squash.

He broke the world record in the squash category in 2000 with a 990 pounder, and went over the 1000 pound mark with a pumpkin in 2001 with an unofficial weight of 1069. In 2002, eleven years of growing finally paid off with an all-time Canadian record 1215. One can only imagine what this young grower will produce over the next eleven years.



Far left: Ben with his 2002, 1215 at the Windsor weigh off, and left, with his family with the new Canadian record.

Top right: Ben with his world record, 2000, 990 squash, and bottom right, Ben and the 2002, 1215 pose with the top growers at Windsor: Dennis Daigle with 1092 left, and Reg Noonan with 957 right.