

Sea Kale (*Crambe maritima*): Commercial Opportunities for Perennial Crops and Climate Smart Agriculture

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This material is based upon work supported by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, through the Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education program under subaward number FNE18-895-32231.

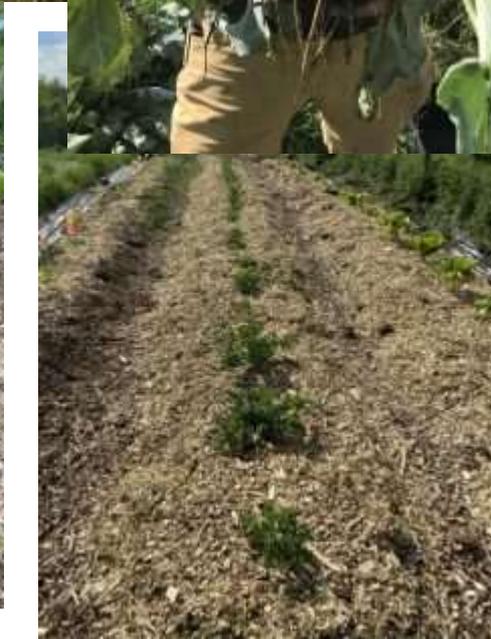
Funding for this project was made possible by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Agricultural Marketing













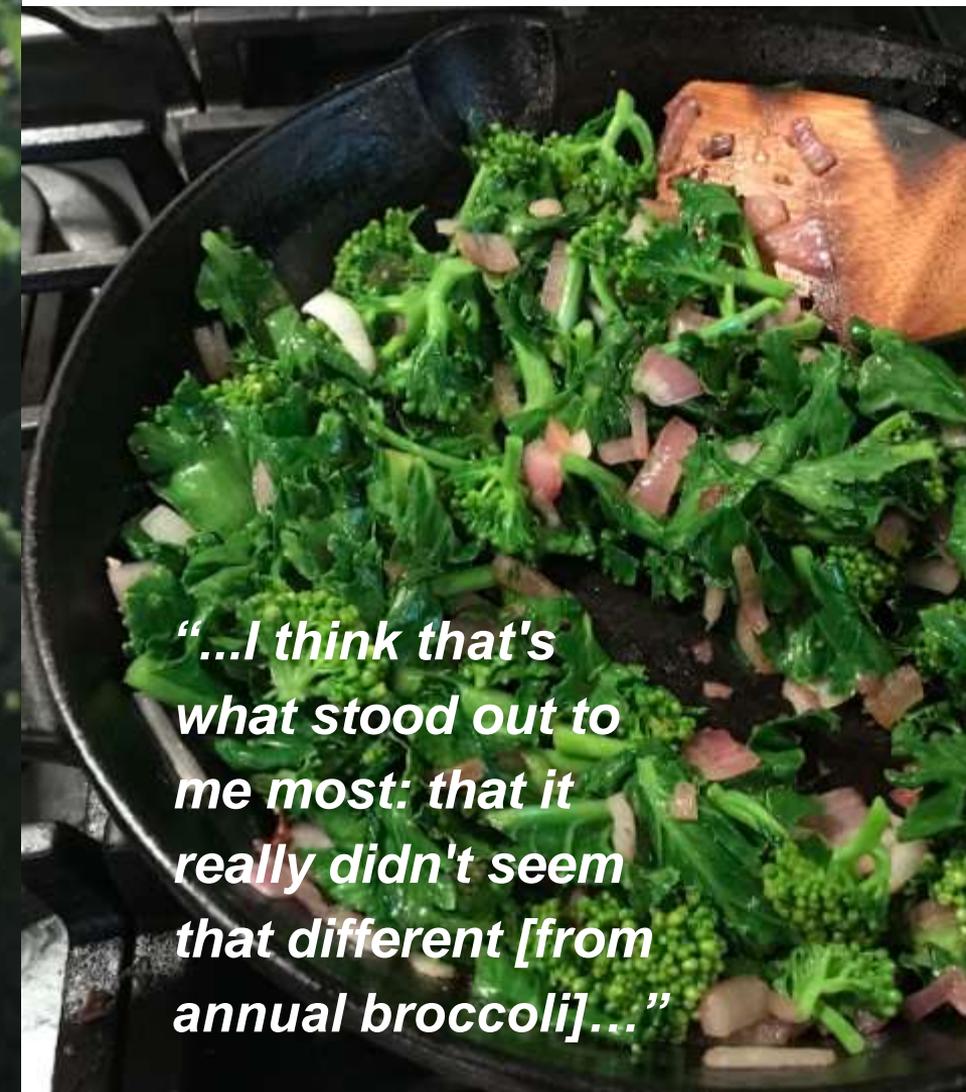
- Sea Kale (3rd / 4th yr)
 - 1.8 to 3.7 # / plant
 - Approx **4,764 to 9,768 # / acre or 65-133# / 100' row feet** in field plantings of 6' between rows and 2.75' between plants
- Annual Broccoli = 5K - 10K lbs. / acre, **NE 5 year Navig. 3,615 lbs**
- Asparagus = **1,420 # / acre NE avg**

([New England Vegetable Management Guide](#) (UMASS Center for Ag, Food, and the Env))

Though the ranges of our research yields and the ranges of estimated yields for annual broccoli through UMASS are relatively similar, the real 5 year avg. in the northeast as well as the relative immaturity of the Sea Kale plants harvested, suggest to us that yields of Sea Kale could prove significantly more productive than annual broccoli on an acre / acre and plant by plant basis.



“...the stems are significantly better than broccoli stems- more tender, more juicy, perhaps sweeter...”



“...I think that's what stood out to me most: that it really didn't seem that different [from annual broccoli]...”

Research Deliverables and Materials:

- [Commercial Crop Growing Guide](#) (1 page / 2 sides; pdf)
- [UVM Center for Sustainable Agriculture Perennial Vegetable Research Webpage](#)
- [Final SARE Report](#)
- Contribution to international collaborative research on nutritional analyses of Sea Kale and other Perennial Crops for paper authored by Eric Toensmeier, submitted to *Food Chemistry* (not yet publicly available)
- [Introductory Article to Sea Kale](#)
- [7 Days Article by Food Writer Melissa Pasanen](#)
- Commercial Crop Enterprise Guide (available soon)