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WATERMELON

My name is Walter Watermelon. My brothers and sisters and I are round or oblong and have a smooth hard rind (thick skin), usually green with dark green stripes. I have a juicy, sweet flesh inside that is deep red to pink, but some of my fellow watermelons are orange, yellow, or white inside.

I have hard, black seeds inside me, but some others don't. Texas is ranked third in the country for growing watermelons, and we are the state's largest garden crop. You'll see us growing on long vines in patches, or large areas of a farm.

Fun FACT

Watermelon festivals are common in Texas, including the What-A-Melon Festival in Center, Texas; the Hempstead Watermelon Festival; and the Luling Watermelon Thump.

WATERMELON GROWING REGIONS

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The High Plains
East Texas
Winter Garden
Rio Grande Valley

Joke of the MONTH

Q: When do you go at red and stop at green?

A: When you're eating a watermelon.

RIEXANdra's Refreshing WATERMELON SALAD

INGREDIENTS

Color the

MELON

Squash

cup fresh spring greens
cup fresh cilantro
cup fresh watermelon, cubed
½ cup red grapes, halved
¼ cup walnuts, chopped
¼ cup Feta cheese
4 whole-grain dinner rolls
2 teaspoons butter

As a melon, we're part of the larger

+200

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gourd family and cucumbers and

squash are my cousins.

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PREPARATION

In a large salad bowl, mix all ingredients together. Arrange the salad mixture on a platter and serve with whole-grain dinner rolls spread with grass-fed butter, if possible. Enjoy!!!

Recipes courtesy of: www.whatscooking.fns.usda.gov