

The Squashed



Think you know your fruits and vegetables? Well, do you know how the tendril-bearing plant with fleshy edible fruit and leathery rind of the genus *Cucurbita* got its name? A reckless farmer named Reckless – Johnny Reckless (you can look it up) – was horsing around with one of these plants in his agricultural laboratory one day when it toppled over and squashed him. It's true! The plant's name, eventually shortened to "squash," was meant as a warning to farmers to always treat their fruits and vegetables with care.