In the maritime PNW it is possible to produce carrots through the winter months

What are the characteristics for this system?

- Quality traits: Nantes w good flavor, sweetness, crisp texture/not brittle
- Tall tops to compete with weeds
- Strong tops withstand repeated freeze/thaw
- Cold resistance in roots?
- Late initiation of the reproductive stage of the life cycle
Tall tops for weed competitiveness

Tall top varieties often have strong tops
- Carrots lose petioles in layers from the outer whorl to the inner in the basal rosette
- Multiple layers are lost with succeeding freeze thaw events
- By mid-February the plants may not have enough "top" to be pulled mechanically

Nash identified three vars. for his system
- Root quality characters; shape, flavor, sweet, texture
- Adequate size and strength of tops to allow harvest into Feb.
- Can they be improved?
A winter carrot from New Zealand

- Tall, robust tops
- Very late initiation of the reproductive stage of the life cycle, esp. as regards texture, flavor, and secondary roots
- But, not sweet in fall
  - too pointy
  - pale color

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‘Spring Market’ X ‘Rumba’ cross

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Have produced seed of F2 & F3 in the spring and summer in the GH

- Single roots of most vigorous families into individual pots for selfing and sibbing
- Seed harvested in Aug for planting into an outdoor nursery
Select based on best family performance!