Trendwatch: Pepquiño, Mouse Melon, Mexican Sour Gherkin, Cucamelon...

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My garden is trendy! I planted Mexican Sour Gherkins in my garden because the seed catalog description was so intriguing.

An heirloom that packs a lot of flavor in an adorable, teaspoon-sized treat! These little charmers are like no other, packing a powerful, sweet, cucumber flavor with a tangy, citrus twist. Delicate foliage and fist-fulls of fruit that look like doll-sized watermelons make these plants pretty enough to grow trellised in a flower garden or cascading in a hanging basket

According to the interwebs, the Mexican Sour Gherkin goes by many names: sandita, cucamelon, cuka-nut, mouse melon, Mexican miniature watermelon. Then, just the other day, I saw a story on Slashfood about the <u>Pepquiño</u>, which from their picture looks to be the same fruit (or perhaps a hybrid thereof). The article says this "combination between the cucumber and the melon" is the hot new fancy food item in Europe, and speculates that it will soon be trendy here as well.

If you can't tell from the above photo just how small these little guys are, here's one in my hand for context



They're more cucumber-y than melon-y, but with a burst of lemony tartness. One friend also said the taste reminded her of peas. They've been very easy to grow, sending their elegant leaves and delicate vines climbing all over the place. This is one trend I'm happy to help propagate, no pun intended.