



2017

Tomato Varieties

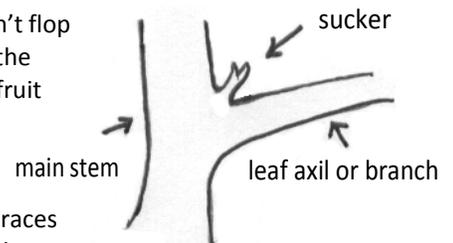
General Culture

All tomatoes require at least **six hours of direct sunlight a day** for best fruit set. Set out transplants or direct sow seeds in the garden after danger of frost is past (in our area, after April 15th) and preferably on a cloudy, wind-free day. Tomatoes perform better and have fewer disease problems when air circulation is good, so **space plants at least 2 feet apart**. Using stakes or tomato cages will save space in the garden, increase yields, and make it easier to harvest the fruits. If you are planting in clay soil, **amend the garden beds** with pine bark soil conditioner and compost or aged manure by layering 2-3 inches of soil conditioner and 1-2 inches of compost/aged manure over the top of the planting area and tilling to 6-8 inches. Alternatively, **raised beds** will allow you complete control over the soil quality and these should be filled with quality topsoil/compost blends or bagged soils. When planting incorporate recommended amounts of **organic fertilizer such as Tomato-tone™**. After planting, mulch over the area to protect root zones, conserve water, and help prevent soil-borne disease. **Feed plants regularly** sidedressing with fertilizer 4-6 inches from the plant's stem after the plants have started to set fruit and every 4-6 weeks thereafter throughout the season. If we receive less than one inch of rain in a week, water the plants thoroughly making sure to soak the root zone. **Avoid watering the foliage** when irrigating. A soaker hose or drip irrigation system works well and helps prevent foliar diseases. If your plants have dark brown, flattened areas at the base of the fruit, your soil is either lacking calcium or is receiving uneven watering. This is a condition called "blossom end rot" and can be avoided by taking care to water regularly, when needed, and by adding gypsum to the soil when planting. Once blossom end rot is present, spray plants with Rot-Stop™ and monitor soil moisture. While you don't want the soil to be wet all the time, don't let it dry out too much between waterings.

Tomatoes are divided into two basic categories: determinate and indeterminate. Determinate vines will grow to a pre-determined size and produce fruits over a 3-4 week period when mature (a benefit for those who like to can at home or make lots of sauce). They tend to take up less space in the garden and generally do not require staking. Instead, they are better grown in tomato cages.

Indeterminate vines will continue to grow and produce fruit throughout the season and size can be quite large, though variable. These vines will need support from stakes or cages so they don't flop over and ramble. Gardeners should also pinch out stems called "**suckers**" that arise between the main stem and leaf axils of indeterminate vines. This will direct more of the plant's energy to fruit producing and less to foliage. See the illustration at the right for clarification.

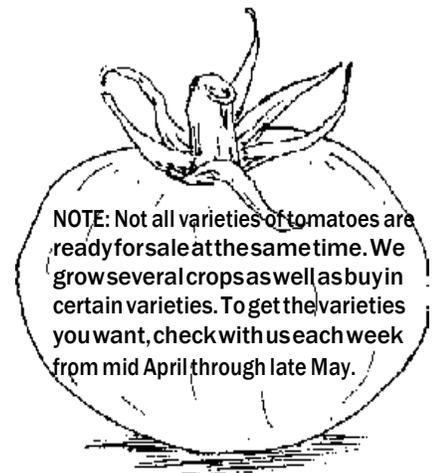
Disease resistance is usually indicated by the letters V, F, FF, FFF, N, A, T, St or some combination thereof. "**V**" means resistant to verticillium wilt, "**F**" means resistant to fusarium wilt, "**FF**" means resistant to fusarium wilt races 1 & 2, "**FFF**" means resistant to fusarium wilt races 1, 2, & 3, and "**N**" means resistance to root-knot nematodes. "**A**" = Alternaria Stem Canker resistance, "**St**" = Stemphylium Gray Leaf Spot resistance, and "**T**" = Tobacco Mosaic Virus resistance. "**L**" = Septoria Leaf Spot. Gardeners may wonder about the label "**F1**" seen on plant tags. This means that the plant is a first generation hybrid and has all of the preferred characteristics of the hybrid. Later generations can have genetic variability and may not retain all of the desired features of the parent plants. This is why most gardeners do not save seeds of hybrid tomatoes to re-plant.



What is an heirloom tomato? Heirlooms have been classified down into four categories:

1. **Commercial Heirlooms:** Open-pollinated varieties introduced before 1940, or tomato varieties more than 50 years in circulation.
2. **Family Heirlooms:** Seeds that have been passed down for several generations through a family.
3. **Created Heirlooms:** Crossing two known parents (either two heirlooms or an heirloom and a hybrid) and dehybridizing the resulting seeds for however many years/generations it takes to eliminate the undesirable characteristics and stabilize the desired characteristics, perhaps as many as 8 years or more.
4. **Mystery Heirlooms:** Varieties that are a product of natural cross-pollination of other heirloom varieties.

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(Note: All heirloom varieties are open-pollinated but not all open-pollinated varieties are heirloom varieties.)



Hybrid Tomatoes - *most of these varieties are modern hybrids and are denoted by (HYB) in the description. Those without (HYB) are open-pollinated but relatively modern, non-heirloom varieties.*

Beefmaster (HYB) - Meaty, easy slicing tomatoes great for topping burgers. Nearly seedless with fine flavor. Very productive and disease resistant with large fruits up to 2 lbs. Indeterminate. 80 days. VFNASt

Better Boy (HYB) - Large, tasty fruits up to 1 lb. each! Excellent disease resistance. Indeterminate. 72 days.

VFNASt **Better Bush** (HYB) - Flavorful tomatoes on compact, sturdy-stemmed plants that do well in containers and small spaces. Medium-sized fruits good for slicing. Highly productive. May require staking. Determinate. 68 days. VFN **Big Beef** (HYB) - Large red fruits up to 10-12 oz. each are firm, juicy, and very flavorful. Disease-resistant heavy yielder is an All-America Winner. Indeterminate. Long harvest season. 73 days. VFNTASL

Big Boy (HYB) - One of the most popular tomatoes. Sweet, fragrant, smooth-skinned fruits are large weighing up to a pound or more. Indeterminate with a bush-like habit are strong growers and have good disease resistance. 78 days.

Bush Goliath (HYB) - Highly-acclaimed bush variety developed for limited space. Compact plants produce flavorful 3-4" fruits with high sugar content. Determinate. 68 days. VFN

Celebrity (HYB) - All-purpose variety with excellent flavor, great disease resistance, and heavy yields. This All-America Winner is crack-resistant and fruits average about 7 oz. Will require staking in a container. Determinate. 70 days. VFNTASL

Chocolate Cherry - Extremely flavorful black cherry tomato produced on trusses of up to 8 fruits. Fruits hold the stems well and can be picked several days before completely mature and allowed to ripen off the vine without sacrificing quality. Great for home gardener and market gardener alike. Indeterminate. 70 days.

Container Choice Red (HYB) - A space-saving container variety featuring sturdy plants with high yields of bright red, 6-8 oz, flat-tened beefsteak tomatoes. Ripens uniformly, no green shoulders. Determinate. 70 days. VFF

Early Girl (HYB) - An early producer bearing heavy crops of bright red, meaty fruits, continuing longer than many others. Large clusters of 5 oz. fruits with plenty of flavor and aroma. Indeterminate. 59 days. VF

Incas (HYB) - Early ripening San Marzano paste type tomato. Bright red fruits weigh about 3 oz and have thick, meaty flesh. Ideal for pastes, sauces, canning, or fresh. Determinate. 70 days. VF

Indigo Rose (HYB) - Seriously, a purple tomato! The first high anthocyanin (health-promoting, disease-fighting pigment) commercially available tomato. Purple on the sunny side, red on the shaded, and red flesh with wonderfully balanced tomato flavor. Allow fruits to mature completely for best flavor. Heavy yielder. Indeterminate. 75-80 days.

Juliet (HYB) - Abundantly produces super sweet grape-like tomatoes all-season. This All-America winner is crack-resistant unlike many other grape tomatoes and has superb flavor. Indeterminate. 60 days.

La Roma III (HYB) - Italian paste tomato excellent for canning, paste, and sauces. Firm meaty texture with very few seeds and heavy yields of 3-4 oz. plum-shaped fruits. Will require staking in a container. Determinate. 62 days.

Lemon Boy (HYB) - Bright lemon-yellow fruits are meaty with great tangy flavor. This tomato beat out other yellow tomatoes for flavor and yield in trials. Good disease resistance. Indeterminate. 72 days. VFNASt

Marglobe - Produces a large crop of perfectly round, smooth tomatoes with solid flesh, about 6-8 oz. each. Crack-resistant and great for canning. Determinate. 75 days. VF

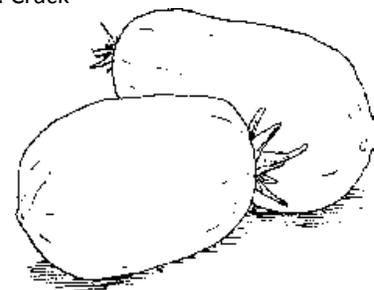
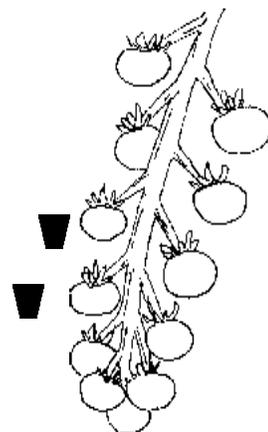
Parks Whopper (HYB) An early producer of big, juicy, meaty, crack-resistant fruits. Improved hybrid for greater disease resistance, bigger yields, longer season, and better taste. 65 days. VFFNT

Patio (HYB) - Medium-sized red fruits on compact bushy plants are great for growing in containers where space is limited. Resistant to fusarium wilt. Determinate. Matures in 69-80 days. VASL

Pink Girl (HYB) - Juicy pink tomatoes averaging 6-8 oz. Mild, with good flavor and crack resistance. Vigorous grower, disease resistant, and heavy producer. Indeterminate. 76 days. VFAST

Red Cherry - This dependable, full-flavored salad tomato is a vigorous grower and can often outgrow diseases. 72 days.

San Marzano - A well-known open-pollinated Roma-style sauce or paste tomato. Clusters of bright red, oblong fruits hold



▼ = good for growing in containers

well on the vine and in storage. Solid, meaty fruit perfect for canning. Indeterminate. 80 days.

Saucey - An excellent paste tomato outperforming other paste types for early and productive yields. Compact and disease-resistant. Smooth, meaty fruits are crack-resistant with good flavor and very few seeds. Easy-to-peel fruits stay fresh on the vine for a long time. Determinate. 85 days. ▼

Sun Gold (HYB) - Clusters of yellow cherry tomatoes with very sweet/tart flavor and is great for snacks and salads. A very popular variety. Will require staking in a container. Indeterminate. 65 days.

Sun Sugar (HYB) - A bright gold to orange cherry tomato with a very sweet-tart flavor. Vigorous, disease-resistant, early cropper, with good crack resistance, and great production. Indeterminate. 62 days. FT

Super Fantastic (HYB) - Large, meaty 10 oz. fruits on heavy yielding vines. Produces all season and does well in most regions. Indeterminate. 70 days. VF

Supersteak (HYB) - One of the original "giant" tomatoes with rich beefsteak taste and meaty texture. Disease resistant. Fruits weigh 16 oz and up! Indeterminate. 80 days. VFN

Super Sweet 100 (HYB) - Long clusters of deliciously sweet cherry tomatoes. Sweeter than the famous 'Sweet 100'. Indeterminate. 70 days.

Sweet Seedless (HYB) - The world's first seedless tomato! Large, red, firm fruits 8-10 oz each. A great balance of sweet flavor, gel, meat, and juiciness. Disease resistant and heavy producing. Indeterminate. 70 days.

Valleycat (HYB) - High yielding, very firm and meaty. Keeps for an extended period after harvest. Vigorous plants produce large, round, smooth beefsteak type fruits about 9 oz each. Great disease resistance. Determinate. 75 days.

Heirloom Tomatoes

Amish Paste - An Amish heirloom discovered in the late 1800's in Wisconsin. Tear drop-shaped fruits are very meaty with few seeds making them very good for sauces and paste. Excellent, creamy mild flavor. Indeterminate. Matures in 75-82 days.

Arkansas Traveler - A 100 year old heirloom grown throughout the South. Produces 8 oz. pink, slicing tomatoes with good disease and crack resistance. Very rich and full in flavor with a good sweet/tart balance. Tolerates high heat, humidity, and drought. Indeterminate. 80-90 days.

Black Cherry - Prolific clusters of juicy, deep red-burgundy cherry tomatoes. Flavor is complex, rich, deep, and sweet. Indeterminate. 65 days.

Black Krim - One of the most prolific "black" tomatoes with a rich, earthy, almost smoky flavor that often makes it a major contender in taste tests. Large 10-14 oz. beefsteak-style fruits. Indeterminate. 75 days.

Brandywine (pink) - A very popular heirloom beefsteak tomato that dates back to the 1880's. It has a superb flavor that wins many taste tests. Very large fruit of up to 1 lb. each with unique pink-red color. Heavy producer even in heat. Indeterminate. 85 days.

Carbon - A "black" tomato with rich, complex flavors. Winner of an heirloom tomato taste test at Cornell Univ. Produces large, 8-12 oz crack-resistant fruits. Excellent for salads and sandwiches. Indeterminate. 80 days.

Cherokee Green Considered by many to be one of the finest tasting tomatoes. Bright green flesh with Yellowish skin. Large fruits up to 12-16 oz. with deep, rich, sweet tomato flavor. Indeterminate. 86 days.

Cherokee Purple - Considered by many to be one of the finest tasting tomatoes. Deep pink fruits with purple shoulders. Large fruits up to 12-16 oz. with deep, rich, sweet tomato flavor. Indeterminate. 75-80 days.

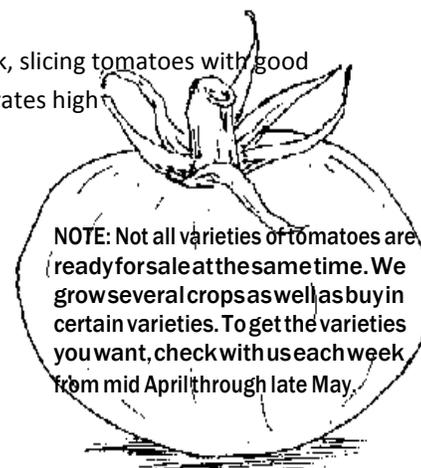
German Johnson - A popular heirloom from Virginia and North Carolina. Large, dark-pink 1-2 lb. fruits are very flavorful and almost crack-free. Very productive bearing excellent quality, delicious fruits. 80-90 days.

Hillbilly Potato Leaf- Yellow skinned tomato with red on the blossom end. Juicy and sweet fruits. Large 1 lb fruits. Great for slicing and is a heavy producer. Indeterminate. 85 days.

Homestead - Heat tolerant tomato good for our climate with good yields of firm, meaty, uniform fruits in the 6-8 oz. range. Good for salads, sandwiches, and canning. Determinate. 80 days. FA

Hungarian Heart - Huge, pink heart-shaped tomatoes with dense, meaty fruits, and rich tomato flavor. Crack resistant, with few seeds. Good for slicing, sauce, and canning. Indeterminate. 85 days.

Indigo Apple - Cross between Indigo Rose and a red cherry tomato. The unripe green fruit, 2-4 oz, will show lots of purple, which is brought on by sunlight, but will eventually turn almost a true black. Excellent sweet tomato flavor. Indeterminate. 70-75 days.



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Italian Heirloom – Bright red fruits grow to over 1 lb. Excellent full tomato flavor. Ideal for slicing and canning; easy to peel. Indeterminate. 70-80 days.

Kellogg's breakfast- Bright orange tomato that grow up to 2 lbs!! It is very Juicy and delicious and is ideal for slicing. Indeterminate. 80 days.

Mexico Midget - Produces hundreds of tiny currant-type tomatoes each with serious tomato flavor, tart and juicy. An early, reliable, and prolific producer that continues through a long season. Indeterminate. 60-70 days.

Moonglow – The perfect looking golden-orange tomato. Smooth, medium sized and globe shaped tomato. Fine flavored with few seeds. Indeterminate. 90 days. ▼

Mortgage Lifter - A huge tomato weighing up to 4 lbs. each! The average fruit is about 2.5 lbs. and is meaty with few seeds. A consistent taste-test winner, this variety dates back to the 1930's and was bred by a farmer during the Great Depression who paid off his mortgage in six years by selling the plants for \$1 apiece. Indeterminate. 80 days.

Mr. Stripey - A beautiful large beefsteak type that is golden yellow blended with bright red inside and out. Smooth, meaty flesh and very sweet flavor. Indeterminate. 80 days.

Pineapple Hawaiian - Beautiful golden orange beefsteak type tomato weighing up to 1.5 lbs. When fruit is ripe it has a luscious, very rich, sweet pineapple like flavor. Indeterminate. 93 days.

Rutgers - Vigorous grower that does well in humid conditions. Medium-sized fruits are firm, crack-resistant, and have low acidity and excellent flavor for both slicing and cooking. Determinate. Matures in 74 days. VFAST

Tommy Toe – Also know as Steakhouse. This plant loves the heat and humidity. It has an old fashioned full complex flavor with 1 inch size cherry tomatoes. Indeterminate. 70 days. ▼

Yellow Pear: A beautiful pear shaped mini-tomato with yellow skin. Sweet and mellow flavor and a heavy producer. Indeterminate. 75 days.

Tomatillos:

Purple Tomatillo - Sweeter than green tomatillos and purple when ripe! Sweet-tart flavor makes excellent salsa. 70 days.

