

Tomatoes

...cherry VS beefsteak!



General: Tomatoes like a continuous water supply, and require 6-8 hours of sun daily. They can grow deep roots, so ensure ground is loose and fertile. Tomatoes come in two general types, bush and vine (indeterminate). Tie vine plants to a sturdy trellis as they grow. Do not over crowd plants. Water deeply to encourage root growth. If the plant starts to wilt, water deeply to encourage deeper root growth. Mulch after the plant is established, and the top layer of soil has dried up. Varieties and types vary in growth habits and fruit development.

Fertilizing: Do not over fertilize with high nitrogen fertilizer. Adjust pH balance by liming to increase calcium uptake, which helps prevent blossom end rot. Seaweed fertilizer has reported benefits, and should be considered.

Temperature Tolerances: Warm weather crop, 8 to 10 hours of sunshine per day. Some varieties are sensitive to cold night time temperature, which can retard growth of fruits. When nights get cold at the end of August, new fruit will stop developing. **Seed Saving:** It is easy to save seeds of heirloom and heritage certified organic open pollinated varieties. Hybridized plants are designated F1, or a first generation hybrid.

Sowing: Germinates in 7-14 days. Start indoors in soilless medium 6-8 weeks before the last frost - end of April or early March. Transplant 4 cm/2 inch seedlings to their own containers and grow under bright light between 16 - 21 C / 60-70 F. Transplant into potting soil, and keep soil moist, and water regularly. Over-watering will produce shallow roots. Roots can be three feet long for some varieties. **Crop Rotation:** Plant in an area that has not had tomatoes for three years, or else add a significant amount of new soil. This will help control soil borne diseases.

Companion Plants: Plant carrots between rows, also basil and chives. **Soil:** Amend with fortified compost (blood and bone meal added in). Ensure that roots have lots of room to grow deeply and expand outward.

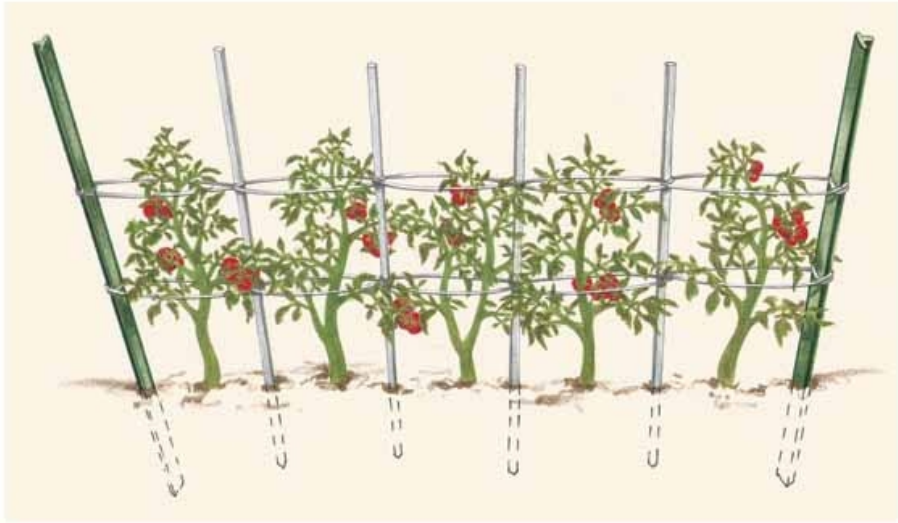
Watering: Water deeply. If the plant is wilting, water it deeply at the base. Amend soil well with organic material to retain moisture. Mulch with oat straw. If using newspapers - soak them and place them around the bed. Cover with wood chips. Make sure your top layer of soil has dried out before applying mulch (this will help seal in moisture).

Planting depth: 6 mm/1/4 inch **Seed Spacing:** 8 cm/3 inches

Row Width: 90 cm/36 inches **Thin to:** 90 cm/36 inches

Notes: _____

Tomato Caging, Trellising, and Staking



Tomatoes

Location: _____ Year: _____

Variety: _____

DTM (Days to Maturity) after transplanting: _____

Seed Company: _____

Date Seeded: _____ Date transplanted to garden: _____

Expected Date of Harvest: _____

Fruit Size and taste: _____

Seed Saving: _____

Growth Habit: Determinant Indeterminant (vine type)

Staking/Caging/Trellising required: _____

Table Use: _____

Planting Depth: _____ Seed Spacing: _____

Row Width: _____ Thin to: _____

Fertilizing Regime: _____

Harvesting: _____

Notes: _____

Tomatoes

Beef 62 steak DTM



Up to 16 ounce fruit

Location: _____

Year: _____

DTM: Early variety. Days to Maturity is 62 days after transplanting.

Date Seeded: _____ **Date transplanted to garden:** _____

Expected Date of Harvest: _____

Fruit: Bright red large sized fruit. 12 to 16 ounces, or more.

Seed Saving: Yes

Growth Habit: Early variety. Short bushy variety. Staking not required.

Table Use: “Meaty” variety that is good for slicing.

Planting Depth: 6 mm/1/4 inch **Seed Spacing:** 8 cm/3 inches

Row Width: 90 cm/36 inches **Thin to:** 90 cm/36 inches

Temperature Tolerance: _____

Fertilizing Regime: Heavy feeder _____

Harvesting: _____

Notes: _____

Tomatoes

Big Beef 70
Hybrid DTM



Location: _____

Year: _____

From 9-12 ounce fruit

DTM: Days to Maturity is 70 days after transplanting.

Date seeded: _____ Date transplanted to garden: _____

Expected date of harvest: _____

Fruit: Beefsteak-type flavour. Fruits average 9-12 ounces, and are extra large with a deep oblate shape and meaty sweet flesh.

Seed Saving: Hybrid plants will not produce “true-to-type” seeds, seeds may not be fertile.

Growth Habit: Indeterminate, wire cage is advised to increase production.

Temperature Tolerance: _____

Table Use: Slicing

Planting Depth: 6 mm/1/4 inch

Seed Spacing: 8 cm/3 inches

Row Width: 90 cm/36 inches

Thin to: 90 cm/36 inches

Fertilizing Regime: Heavy feeder _____

Harvesting: Pick when red in the fall. Ripen green fruit indoors. _____

Notes: _____

Tomatoes

Brandy 80
wine DTM



Up to 16
ounce fruit



Image of a brandywine tomato plant, showing the smooth potato-leaves

Location: _____

Year: _____

DTM: Date to Maturity is 80 days after transplanting. Not an early variety.

Date seeded: _____ **Date transplanted to garden:** _____

Expected date of harvest: _____

Fruit: Amish heirloom variety is deeply lobed, green shouldered, and slightly purplish-red in colour.

Seed Saving: Yes

Growth Habit: Indeterminate - staking/caging required. Has potato-leaves. Requires pruning before the fruit sets. A tall, fast growing plant, do not over fertilize with nitrogen. _____

Temperature Tolerances: _____

Planting Depth: 6 mm/1/4 inch **Seed Spacing:** 8 cm/3 inches

Row Width: 90 cm/36 inches **Thin to:** 90 cm/36 inches

Fertilizing Regime: Heavy feeder, but avoid too much nitrogen which will encourage leaf and stem growth at the expense of the fruit. _____

Harvesting: Pick when fruits are ripe to encourage growth. After frost, store tomatoes in the sun to ripen. _____

Tomatoes

Earlianna
65 DTM



5-6 ounce fruit

Location: _____

Year: _____

This heirloom variety was introduced by George Sparks of Salem, New Jersey and listed by Wethersfield seedsman Thomas Griswold in 1912.

DTM: Days to Maturity is 65 days after transplanting, an early producer.

Date Seeded: _____ Date transplanted to garden: _____

Expected Date of Harvest: _____

Fruit: Very early red tomatoes of medium size (5-6 ounce fruit).

Seed Saving: Yes Growth Habit: Indeterminate, staking required, a compact plant. Good for container gardens.

Temperature Tolerances: Heat and humidity _____

Table Use: fresh, salad, canning

Planting Depth: 6 mm/1/4 inch Seed Spacing: 8 cm/3 inches

Row Width: 90 cm/36 inches Thin to: 90 cm/36 inches

Fertilizing Regime: _____

Harvesting: _____

Notes: _____

Tomatoes

Sweetie
70 DTM



1 ounce fruit



Location: _____

Year: _____

DTM: Date to Maturity is 70 days after transplanting.

Date Seeded: _____ **Date transplanted to garden:** _____

Expected Date of Harvest: _____

Fruit: A sweet cherry-type one ounce sized fruit, produces all summer.

Seed Saving: Yes

Growth Habitat: Indeterminate (vine type) and requires staking.

Temperature Tolerances: Heat loving. Plant against a south or west wall or fence. Mulch with black plastic or plant in an old tire to retain heat.

Table Use: Fresh, salads, relishes and canning. Add citric acid for canning.

Planting Depth: 6 mm/1/4 inch **Seed Spacing:** 8 cm/3 inches

Row Width: 90 cm/36 inches **Thin to:** 90 cm/36 inches

Fertilizing Regime: _____

Harvesting: _____

Notes: _____

Tomatoes

Bonnie Best 72
Improved DTM



7-8 ounce fruit



Location: _____

Year: _____

Bonnie Best is an heirloom commercial variety introduced in 1908 by Union Springs, from a selection of Chalk's Early Jewel (Burpee).

DTM: Date To Maturity is 72 days after transplanting.

Date Seeded: _____ Date Transplanted to Garden: _____

Expected Date of Harvest: _____

Fruit: Average 8 ounces, clusters of medium sized deep red fruit are uniform.

Prolific and continuous producer. Mild tasting fruits.

Seed Saving: Yes

Growth Habit: Indeterminate (vine type) and requires staking.

Temperature Tolerances: _____

Table Use: fresh, salad, slicing, and canning.

Planting Depth: 6 mm/1/4 inch

Seed Spacing: 8 cm/3 inches

Row Width: 90 cm/36 inches

Thin to: 90 cm/36 inches

Fertilizing Regime: _____

Harvesting: _____

Notes: _____