

Tomato Varieties and Descriptions

ABE LINCOLN

Heirloom. Indeterminate. 77 days to maturity. This old-time variety produces abundant of 6 to 10 oz. brilliant round medium sized red tomatoes that are packed with great tomato flavor. They have a tender, fine texture and a fair amount of acid that is nicely tempered with sweetness. They grow in clusters of up to 9 tomatoes and can be harvested until first frost. This variety has been popular since the early 1920's, and it is no wonder considering its productivity and flavor.

ARKANSAS TRAVELER

Heirloom. Indeterminate. 85-90 days to maturity. Disease resistant. Produces moderate to high yield of rich flavorful tomatoes. Deep pink when ripe, the round 6-8 oz. fruit have a good balance of sweetness and tartness accounting for its reputation as one of the very best heirloom varieties. Originated from Ozark Mountains of Arkansas.

BIG ZAC

Indeterminate. 80 days to maturity. Plant produces good yields of very large (up to 6 lb) tomatoes which turn glossy red when mature. Developed by Minnie Zaccaria of New Jersey for competition, by crossing two heirloom varieties. It won the New Jersey Championship in 1995 and 1997 and won the Week's Giant Growers Contest in 1998. Excellent for sandwiches and salads. One of the biggest tomatoes you'll ever see.

BITONTO

Determinate. 55 days to maturity. Patio-type tomato with strong, compact, reliably productive plants and good-tasting fruit. 1" bright red fruit. The bite-sized cherry tomatoes are delicious little morsels borne on cascading trusses. An ideal container plant that performs handsomely in hanging baskets and planters as well as in the tightest of garden spaces, reaching a perfectly mounding, 20" wide and 10" tall.

BLACK KRIM

Heirloom. Indeterminate. 75 days to maturity. Produces high yields of dark reddish-black beefsteak tomatoes that have a rich tomato flavor and turn to reddish black when mature. Interior is reddish green and very sweet. Excellent for salads and sandwiches. An heirloom originating from the Black Sea region of Russia.

BRANDYBOY HYBRID

Indeterminate. 75-78 days to maturity. A hybrid cross between the heirloom Brandywine and reliable Better Boy. This tomato captures all the rich flavor of the beloved Brandywine heirloom tomato...long the flavor favorite among heirloom tomatoes with a more shapely form, tidier growth habit, improved disease-resistance and bigger, earlier yields. This hybrid produces loads of large pink fruits up to 5 1/2" across. The fruits ripen evenly, and share Brandywine's soft heirloom texture, thin skin and exceptional tangy-sweet taste. Potato leaf foliage.

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BRANDYWINE

Indeterminate. 80 days to maturity. A pink, potato-leaf, Amish variety from the 1880s. Fruits are reddish-pink, with light, creamy flesh that average 12 oz but can grow to 2 lbs. Passed down through the generations starting with Ben Quinsbury, from Vermont. He died at the age of 95, passing on his legacy, the Brandywine tomato. It is legendary for its exceptionally rich, succulent tomato flavor. Brandywine consistently scores at the very top in taste tests.

BUSH BETTER BOY

Determinate. Disease resistant. 78 days to maturity. The classic 'Big Boy' renowned for high yields and sweet, fragrant fruits, has been hybridized to produce a bush type plant perfect for small-space and container gardens. Produces tasty, big red tomatoes (10 to 11 oz. each), with a sweet, aromatic, melt-in-your-mouth juiciness.

CHEROKEE PURPLE

Heirloom. Indeterminate. 90 days to maturity. Produces high yields of 6 to 12 oz. purplish pink fruit. Tomatoes have a sweet, smoky, rich flavor and turn deep pink with purplish tint and green shoulders. Grown over 100 years ago by the Cherokee Indians.

COSTOLUTO GENOVESE

Heirloom. Indeterminate. 78 days to maturity. Italian, heat-loving, tomato that has been enjoyed for many generations along the Mediterranean. Large, deep-red fruits have a fluted profile, are deeply ridged, and heavily lobed. Meaty, full-flavored, slightly tart. Because of its scalloped edges, perfect for use in an arrangement of different colored sliced tomatoes. Makes a rich and pungent pasta sauce. 78 days

CUORE DI TORO (Bull's Heart)

Heirloom. Determinate. 89 days to maturity. Plant produces good yields of large 2 lb pink-red meaty oxheart type tomatoes. Wonderful sweet flavor. Excellent for making paste, sauce, puree, and canning.

DELICIOUS

Indeterminate. 77 days to maturity. Produces bushels of smooth, meaty, thick-walled, 1-lb. plus fruits. A Guinness record holder.

EARLY GIRL

Indeterminate. 50-62 days to maturity. A standard tomato developed in France for short growing seasons. Perfect for higher elevations where frost lingers late and arrives early to the growing season. Globe shaped 4-6 oz. bright red tomatoes with good but not sensational flavor.

FIRST LIGHT

Indeterminate. 76 days to maturity. Plant produces good yields of 5-7 oz. red tomatoes. The fruit has a very full tomato flavor and crisp texture. Excellent for salads and salsa. Tomatoes should be harvested when the lower half of the tomato has turned red but still has green shoulders.

ISIS CANDY (cherry)

Indeterminate. 67 days to maturity. Plant produces good yields of early season 3/4" yellow-gold cherry tomatoes with red marbling streaks inside and out with a distinctive star on the blossom end when it ripens. Fruit are round to oblate in shape and grow in clusters. Taste is sweet and tart with a fruity fragrance.

JAPANESE TRIFELE BLACK

Indeterminate. 70-80 days to maturity. One of the best Russian black tomatoes (despite the 'Japanese' name). High yields of blemish-free fruits that rarely crack. Rich, full flavor with 4-5 oz. fruits. Potato leaf foliage. Harvest when shoulders are still green for best taste. Great for canning.

LITTLE MAMA

Indeterminate. 70 days to harvest. Large clusters of 3-4 oz roma type fruits hang from long stems for easy harvest. Firm rich flesh and thin raspberry-red skin make fruits ideal for sauces and chutneys.

MORTGAGE LIFTER

Heirloom. Indeterminate. 70-80 Days to maturity. Averages 2 1/2 lbs. Mid season beefsteak tomatoes that have a sweet rich flavor and turn deep pink when mature. Developed in the 1930's by a gardener who planted the four biggest varieties he knew, and crossed one with pollen from the other three. He did this for six seasons