

Ginger's Tomato Tutorial

Just a few notes from Ginger, of Sun Catcher Harvest, to help with your success in growing vegetables.

- Four stages for vegetable success.

1ST —PREPARE YOUR SOIL

2ND —TAKE CARE OF PESTS (PRE-BAIT)

3RD —MAKE PLANT SELECTIONS

4TH —STAGGER YOUR VEGETABLE PLANTING

- Start your planting with tomatoes.

•Plant peppers and eggplants approximately 3 weeks later.

•Cucumbers, melons, squash, pumpkins, approximately 2 weeks after the peppers.

•Try NOT to plant all of your vegetable garden at once. Timing is very important and you'll have much more success.

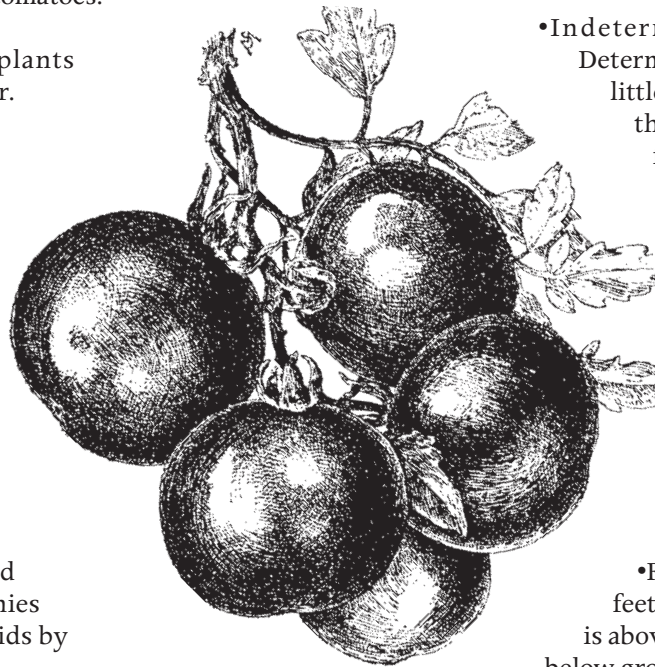
•An heirloom must have been cultivated prior to 1940 because by the mid 1930's many seed companies were starting to create hybrids by crossing two varieties.

Some say an heirloom isn't a true heirloom unless it has been passed down from generation to generation within the same family or extended family. So, for me it is much easier to say, "an heirloom is what your grandmother's mother use to grow." And grew them for taste, and yes, they are hardy. How else could they be handed down?

•Plant tomatoes deep and no need to pick off the leaves. All the hair along the stem and leaf will become root. More root, healthier plants.

•Lots of flowers and no tomatoes? If a flower is not pollinated within approximately 2 days, it will abort itself and fall off. Remedy; do the pollination yourself by shaking the tomato plant or move the pollen, flower to flower, with a small brush.

Zucchini, if not pollinated, will grow only a few inches long and then look as if it has a rotten end and then fall off. Many people think this is a water problem, but it is not, it is a pollination problem. Remedy, move pollen from male to female flower. Male is the long skinny one and female is round. Just like people, the women have the round hips.



- Indeterminate versus Determinate: Determinate types are bushier, need little or no staking and tend to set their flowers then develop all the fruit at about the same time. Many commercial varieties are of this type for efficient harvesting.

Indeterminate types are more vine-like and need training—either stake, trellis or cage. Blooms and fruit are continually produced throughout the growing season. Many favorites of the backyard farmer are of this type.

•Remember a tomato can have 3 to 10 feet of roots! About as big as the plant is above ground, there is that much root below ground. This limits the varieties that work well in containers. Smaller cherry-types are best and some medium-sized, or determinate-types work, too.

People who want small or container-sized vegetables, other than tomatoes, should try 'Magda', a small zucchini, and 'Pot Luck' cucumber, both bush types not vines. And of course peppers work well in pots.

And finally, "GROW WHAT YOU CAN'T BUY" There is a vast collection of rare vegetables, at least 18,000 and of that number about 4,500 are tomatoes.

- ABRAHAM LINCOLN:** Hybrid VFNASt 75 days. The delicious, globe shaped, bright red fruits weigh an average of 8 oz. frequently growing considerably large. Indeterminate.
- AMISH PASTE:** Heirloom 74 days. Dates back to the turn of the century. Fruits are bright red, flavorful, but not too acidic. Used for generations for canning and sauces, but terrific just sliced. Indeterminate.
- APPLAUSE:** Hybrid VFFA 65-70 days. This bush type is great for smaller spaces. The earliest to set fruit. Perfect, glossy, 8-10 oz. red globes look so good your guests will squeeze them to see if they're real! Remember, it's determinate, sets all at once, great for cooking.
- BANANA LEGS:** Heirloom 85 days. Orange paste tomato 2" x 4". Color is similar to Sun Gold with a sprightly sweet flavor —has both color and flavor going for it! Indeterminate.
- BIG PICK:** Hybrid VFNT 72 days. Large fruits that are round, smooth, and have an excellent flavor. Nice slicing, great for those summer barbecues. Very disease resistant. Indeterminate.
- BIG RAINBOW:** Heirloom 95 days. Huge up to 2 lbs. Yellow fruit, with red streaks when sliced. Great color and great flavor. Indeterminate.
- BLACK KRIM:** Heirloom 69 days. A most unusual fruit, with very delicate skin. Dark red with green shoulders when ripe. It has a slight saltiness that elevates its full flavor. Indeterminate.
- BLACK PINEAPPLE:** Heirloom 85 days. Belgium Beefsteak weighs 1-2 lbs. Multicolored—green, yellow and purple mix. Sweet, smoky and a hint of citrus. Indeterminate.
- BLACK PRINCE:** Heirloom 70 days. From Siberia. Tomatoes are round and very uniform. About 5 oz., with a deep blackish-chocolate brown color. Flavor is sweet, with an early large crop. Indeterminate.
- BRANDYWINE:** Heirloom 90 to 100 days. An Amish heirloom since 1885. Legendary for its exceptional rich, succulent flavor. Large pink-red fruit is very meaty with few seeds. Consistently produces 1-2 lb. tomatoes. Large green, potato-like foliage offers good cover. Indeterminate.
- BRANDYWINE SUDDUTH'S STRAIN:** Heirloom 90 days. This is the original 'Pink Brandywine' dating back to 1889. It was in the Dorris Sudduth Hill family for more than 80 years. Fruits weigh 1-2 lbs. Rich, intense tomato flavor. Indeterminate.
- BURBANK SLICING:** Heirloom 75 days. A true American heirloom from Luther Burbank in 1915! High yields of fruity, yet tart tasting, rich red, 8-12 oz. tomatoes with the highest levels of free amino acids! And, these stocky bushes don't require staking! Determinate.
- CASPIAN PINK:** Originally grown in Russia, this large, 10-12oz., pink-red fruit is meaty, juicy and sweet with just the right amount of acid. A flavor winner for 3 straight years in Calif. trials. 80 days from transplant.
- CHEROKEE PURPLE:** Heirloom 85 days. An old Cherokee Indian heirloom, pre-1890. Large fruit, with a purple-pink color. Sweet oldtime tomato flavor. Indeterminate.
- CHRISTMAS GRAPE:** Heirloom 72 days. 1" cherry tomatoes in clusters of 10-20. Easy-to-grow, very sweet and productive. Indeterminate.
- COSTOLUTO GENOVESE:** Heirloom 85 days. From the Mediterranean coast of Italy, comes this highly ribbed 6-8 oz. tomato. Deep dark red and meaty, perfect sugar/acid ratio. Great for salads or sauces. Indeterminate.
- CURRANT:** Heirloom 65 days. These rare heritage, currant sized tomatoes grow in clusters like grapes and are intensely flavored. This bush will be loaded with fruit. An attractive garnish. Indeterminate.
- DANIELA:** Hybrid 80 days. "Cluster Tomato" Red greenhouse tomato, 4-7 oz. fruit. Vigorous, disease resistant variety has very long shelf life and very good firmness—delicious! Indeterminate.
- DEBARAO:** Heirloom 72 days. Smooth, firm, medium-size plum tomato. Deep red, crack-free and good flavor. Use for salad, canning or drying. Indeterminate.
- DELICIOUS GOLDEN:** Heirloom 80 days. Golden Orange, with sweet tangy tomato flavor. Up to 1 lb., they look like small pumpkins. Indeterminate.
- DINNER PLATE:** Heirloom 90-100 days. Heart shaped, deep red tomatoes so large one slice can almost cover a dinner plate. Heavy producer of succulent, 1-2 lb. fruits of superior flavor. Thin skinned. Indeterminate.
- EVERGREEN BEEFSTEAK:** Heirloom 75 days. A medium-size beefsteak. Flavor is crisp and bright, with a spicy overtone. When sliced, interior is a brilliant lime chartreuse. Beautiful on a platter! Indeterminate.
- FLAMMÉ:** French Heirloom 70 days. Persimmon orange in color, prolific, juicy and sweet. Perfect in salads. Indeterminate.
- GARDEN PEACH:** Heirloom 75 days. Skin feels matted, like an apricot with a blush. Produces an abundance of small to medium yellow tomatoes. Low acid with good keeping qualities. An oldtime favorite. Indeterminate.
- GOLDEN JUBILEE:** Heirloom 75 days. A very popular orange tomato. Medium sized 8 oz. Smooth texture, sweet and meaty. An AAS winner in 1943. Good size. Good yield. Indeterminate.
- GRANNY SMITH:** Hybrid VFASt 72 days. Light Green color, inside and out. A sweet-tart flavor, weighing 6-8 oz. and absolutely worth trying. Great for grilling, frying or just plan slicing. Indeterminate.
- GREAT WHITE BEEFSTEAK:** Heirloom 75 days. White-cream in color, weighing about 10 oz. Delicious fruity flavor, low in acid and few seeds. Indeterminate.
- GREEN GRAPE:** Endangered Heirloom 70 days. Cherry-type tomato full of flavor, sweet and very juicy. Greenish-yellow, like Muscat grapes, short compact bush makes it easy for picking. Prolific. Determinate.
- GREEN SAUSAGE:** Heirloom 72 days. Banana shaped paste. Green with yellow stripes when ripe. Flesh is green with a rich tangy flavor. Perfect for your salads or canning. Indeterminate.
- GREEN ZEBRA:** Heirloom 72 days. Interesting fruits are striped with yellow and dark green when mature. Low acid fruits are mild, but not bland. A very productive tomato. Unusual in salads too! Indeterminate.
- HEAT WAVE:** Hybrid VFFASt 68 days. Maximum yields are achieved when daytime temperatures range between 90 and 96 degrees. Deep red, ovate fruits average 7 oz. Good disease resistance. Determinate.
- HIGH CAROTENE:** Hybrid 76 days. 2-3 times more beta-carotene than other tomatoes. Excellent source of vitamin A and antioxidants. Red, 6 oz. fruit with good tomato flavor for eating or canning. Indeterminate.
- HILLBILLY:** Heirloom 85 days. An ancient heirloom from the hills of West Virginia. Large, mild, and most unusual orange-yellow color, streaked and mottled in red. Indeterminate.
- ITALIAN GOLD:** Hybrid 70 days. Pear shaped fruits, high in pectin, easy to peel, and very juicy flesh that retains its unique golden-orange color throughout the fruit. Makes a tasty and appealing sauce, perfect for canning or freezing. Determinate.
- ISIS CANDY:** Open Pollinated 73 days. Cherry-size 1 1/2" fruit, marbled red and golden-yellow. Rich and sweet on short trusses in double rows of 6-8. Indeterminate.
- JULIET:** Hybrid 60 days. Sweet plum cluster of deep red grape-sized fruit. Typically 12-18 fruits per cluster. Good crack resistance. Indeterminate.
- JUMBO:** Hybrid VF 85 days. Heavy yield of large red fruits, capable of averaging 20 to 30 lbs. per plant. Exhibits good resistance to cracking. Excellent flavor for salads or sandwiches. Indeterminate.
- LEGEND:** Hybrid 68-75 days. Big, early and very blight resistant. Developed in Oregon, so it's great for cooler climates. Large, round, glossy red, 8-10 oz. fruit, with **very few seeds!** Good sugar to acid blend. Very uniform ripening. Determinate bush to 3' x 3'.

LOLLIPOP: heirloom 75 days. Creamy yellow cherry tomato with 6 per cluster. Flavor is sweet and lemon-like. Highly productive, even during high temperatures. Indeterminate.

MR. STRIPEY: Heirloom 80 days. Large 12 oz. fruit, yellow with pinkish-red stripes. Mild, low acid and few seeds. Indeterminate.

MORTGAGE LIFTER: Heirloom 85 days. An old pink variety still very much in demand. This big beefsteak type is well-shaped with meaty flesh and few seeds. Folklore says it was named by a man who sold his crop to pay off a farm he was about to lose! Indeterminate.

MOUNTAIN GOLD: Hybrid VF 71 days. Fruits are uniform, deep yellow tangerine in color, about 3" across, and firm. Long shelf life, good resistance to cracking. Mild flavor and low acidity. Ideal for short stake culture. Determinate.

OPALKA: Polish Heirloom 75-80 Days. An unusual tomato, in that it's a paste variety, yet indeterminate. Most paste tomatoes are determinate, setting all at once. A high yielder, with chile-pepper-shape fruits 6" long and 3" wide, in clusters of 3-5 with few seeds. Considered one of the best sauce and paste tomatoes. Indeterminate.

OREGON SPRING: Heirloom 58 days. Bears succulent almost seedless fruits of Russian parentage. Fruit ripens extra early, averages 6-7 oz. Compact plant. Determinate.

PAUL ROBESON: Russian Heirloom 74 Days. Medium-size tomato with dusky dark red, 6 oz. fruit displaying dark green shoulders. Excellent sweet, smokey flavor—very tender skin. Indeterminate.

PEARSON: Hybrid 90 days. An improved hybrid of an old favorite. Excellent flavor and quality in an all-purpose variety good for slicing or canning. Semi-determinate.

PERON SPRAYLESS: Hybrid 68 days. Sprayless?? Said to be so pest resistant that it never needs spraying. Introduced in the early 1950's. Bright red, higher in vitamin C than other tomatoes. 3½", 8 oz. fruit—good flavor and reliable. Indeterminate.

PERSIMMON: Beautiful, persimmon colored fruits range from 12-16 oz. Ripens from blossom end to light green shoulders gradually acquiring a rose-orange hue. A colorful, tasty addition to salads. Indeterminate.

PINEAPPLE: Heirloom 85 days. Large Beefsteak to 2 lbs. Yellow with red marbling—looks nice sliced. Sweet fruity flavor. Indeterminate.

PINK PING PONG: Heirloom 80 days. Pink skinned the size of Ping Pong Balls. Prolific with superb flavor. Indeterminate.

PRUDENS PURPLE: Heirloom 75 days. Large, 10-16 oz. dark pink to purple. Meaty flesh with no cracking and few seeds. A "potato-leaf" type. Good production and flavor. Indeterminate.

PURPLE RUSSIAN: Heirloom 80 days. From the Ukraine. Purple-black, plum-shape, 3-4" long. Meaty and sweet. Indeterminate.

RED GRAPE: 55 days. Red elongated cherry-type—popular in the market. Crack-resistant and sweet flavor. Indeterminate.

RED PEAR: Rare Heirloom 70 days. Tall vigorous vine bears quantities of small, ¾ to 1 oz., red, pear-shaped fruits. The taste is somewhat richer than Yellow Pear. Indeterminate.

ROSE: Heirloom 78 days. Our grower says that these rival 'Brandywine' for taste. The large, 8-16 oz., "sandwich-size" fruit are a deep rose color. Plants are high yielding. Indeterminate.

ROSE DE BERNE: Swiss Heirloom 75-80 days. Beautiful, dark pink, globe-shaped, blemish-free tomatoes, 6-8 oz. each. Impressive sweet flavor, thin-skinned and juicy! Very productive, too. Indeterminate.

RUTGERS: Heirloom 75-80 days. Round, 7-8 oz. fruits are meaty and firm with full bodied flavor. A top choice for canning. Semi-determinate.

SAUSAGE: Heirloom 75 days. Unusually shaped, up to 6" long. A very prolific paste tomato. Fine-flavored meat excellent for sauces and canning. Indeterminate.

SNOW WHITE: Heirloom 74 days. Small cherry type and full of sweet flavor. Pale, yellow-ivory color, beautiful mixed with small red and orange cherry tomatoes. Indeterminate.

SPECKLED ROMAN: Heirloom 85 days. Pointed red fruit with orange-yellow stripes. Meaty, excellent flavor. Indeterminate.

STUPICE: Heirloom 55 days. From Czechoslovakia. Red ping-pong ball size fruit. Great flavor, early harvest. Indeterminate.

SUNCHERRY: Hybrid 58 days. Cherry-type tomato. A choice ingredient of salads and snacks. Bite sized, vigorous vines are draped in trusses of 20 fruits or more. Sweet, thin-skinned and juicy. Indeterminate.

SUNGOLD: Hybrid 57 days. Cherry-type tomato. Exceedingly early. This sweet high performer will overflow with an abundance of thin-skinned, bite-size golden fruit. The fruit remains ripe and ready for picking over a long period of time. Indeterminate.

SUPER MARZANO: Hybrid 78 days. Large 5" Roma-type. Rich flavor, high sugar and high pectin. Tasty in salads or sauce. Indeterminate.

SWEET BABY GIRL: Hybrid 65 days. Enhanced sugar gives this tomato that extra sweet flavor with minimal cracking. Productive, dark red fruit grows in long clusters. Determinate.

THAI PINK: Heirloom 60 days. Pink grape tomato from Thailand. Very sweet, abundant crop. Delicious. Indeterminate.

WATERMELON BEEFSTEAK: Rare Heirloom 75 days. Very large oblong shape reminiscent of a watermelon. Pink skin and red flesh. The most fragrant tomato we have grown. This old strain dates back a century and produces sweet, extremely fleshy fruit, 2 lbs. and larger. Indeterminate.

WONDERLIGHT: Heirloom 78 days. Oval, nipped tomato. Lemon-like in size, shape and color. Sweet taste with a hint of citrus. Refreshing! Indeterminate.

YELLOW BRANDYWINE: Heirloom 90-100 days. Brandywine fruits are large, somewhat flat, and grow up to 1 lb. Very rich flavor. Excellent slicing. Indeterminate.

YELLOW PEAR: Heirloom 75 days. First described in 1805— "small yellow tomato in the shape of a pear." Mild flavor and prolific. Indeterminate.

YELLOW STUFFER: Heirloom 76 days. Produces a prolific crop of 4-5 oz. yellow, bell pepper shaped fruits 3-4" in diameter. Ideal for stuffing with salads or dips—delicious with tuna, fruit and Guacamole. Flesh is very firm and holds its shape when cooked. Indeterminate.

PURPLE TOMATILLO: Rare Heirloom 68 days. A variety of purple tomatillo that has smaller fruit, 1" in diameter, with a sharper flavor than the green tomatillo. Makes an attractive purple salsa! Very easy to grow, makes a fine ornamental as well as excellent fruit for Mexican cuisine.



SUN CATCHER HARVEST TOMATOES

CHERRY SIZE

Christmas Grape
Currant
Green Grape
Isis Candy
Lollipop
Red Grape
Red Pear
Snow White
Suncherry
Sun Gold
Sweet Baby Girl
Thai Pink
Yellow Pear

SMALL TO MEDIUM

Black Prince
Caspian Pink
Costoluto Genovese
Daniela
Evergreen Beefsteak
Flammé
Garden Peach
Golden Jubilee
Green Zebra
Heatwave
High Carotene
Mt. Gold
Oregon Spring
Pearson
Persimmon
Pink Ping Pong
Rose de Berne
Rutgers
Stupice
Wonderlight
Yellow Stuffer

LARGE

Abraham Lincoln
Applause
Big Pick
Black Krim
Burbank Slicing
Cherokee Purple
Delicious Golden
Granny Smith
Great White Beefsteak
Hillbilly
Jumbo
Legend
Mr. Stripey
Paul Robeson
Peron Sprayless
Rose
Sausage

EXTRA LARGE

Big Rainbow
Black Pineapple
Brandywine
Brandywine Sudduth's Strain
Dinner Plate
Mortgage Lifter
Pineapple
Prudens Purple
Watermelon Beefsteak
Yellow Brandywine

PLUM OR ROMA TYPE

Amish Paste
Banana Legs
Debarao
Green Sausage
Italian Gold
Juliet
Opalka
Purple Russian
Sausage
Speckled Roman
Super Marzano

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