University of California Cooperative Extension

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## Heirloom Tomato Varieties Available at the 2105 Great Tomato Plant Sale

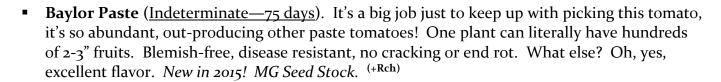
April 4, 10 am –3 pm at Our Garden

-and
April 11, 10 am – 2 pm at Our Garden & in Richmond<sup>(+Rch)</sup>

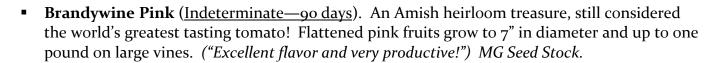
For purposes of propagation, Contra Costa Master Gardeners use only seeds from open-pollinated varieties that breed true. We have collected many of these seeds ourselves from our own gardens (MG Seed Stock). We do not use any GMO seeds.

Quotes in *italics* are from Contra Costa Master Gardeners! Number of days from transplant to fruit ripening is approximate and will vary with environmental & cultural conditions.

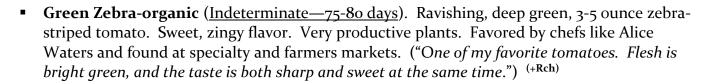
- Amish Paste (<u>Indeterminate—85 days</u>). From Lancaster, PA. At 8-12 ounces, it's one of the largest sauce tomatoes and has superior flavor. Vigorous vines bear heavily over a long season. Flesh is juicy and meaty, excellent for sauce, canning or fresh eating. Tolerant of cooler summers. (+Rch)
- **Ananas Noire-organic** (Indeterminate—80 days). Back by popular demand! Last year, customers asked again and again for this classic Belgian tomato. Yellow beefsteak with red blush can be 1 to 1½ lbs! Great sweet, lip-smacking taste with a hint of acidity. ("Black Pineapple" with a distinctive, streaked interior of pink, red, green and yellow. Large and sprawling plant with large, green-shouldered, dark purple fruits. The fruits have a complex, sweet and rich taste. Makes a great tomato sauce".) Returning in 2015!
- Aunt Ruby's German Green (Indeterminate—78 days). Beefsteak from "Aunt Ruby" of Greeneville, Tennessee. One-pound lime yellow-green fruit with a <u>superb</u> fruity, slightly tangy taste. Big producer and quite disease-resistant. ("This green beefsteak has a deliciously sweet flavor with an undertone. Tomatoes have light green skins at maturity with just a hint of yellow. Flesh is green, blushed with pink. A bit difficult to harvest at the perfect moment, this tomato does not keep well off the plant. But, it's worth the trouble for its truly amazing flavor and beautiful coloring!") MG Seed Stock. (+Rch)
- Azoychka (<u>Indeterminate—70 days</u>). Russian heirloom. One of the earliest tomatoes, this small, lemon yellow beefsteak produces 5 to 8 ounce fruits with bright yellow interiors and a delicious, sweet taste with a hint of lemon. (+Rch)



- **Big Rainbow** (<u>Indeterminate—90 days</u>). Spectacular fruit up to two pounds, delicious and sweet tasting. Quite striking when sliced, as the yellow fruit has neon-red streaking through the firm, meaty low-acid flesh. Good disease resistance. *MG Seed Stock*.
- **Black Cherry-organic** (<u>Indeterminate—75 days</u>). Vigorous plants with large vines yield very well, producing dusky purple-brown grape-like 1" tomatoes with a rich, complex flavor. ("My absolute favorite—the best dark cherry tomato.") MG Seed Stock. (+Rch)
- **Black from Tula** (<u>Indeterminate—75-85 days</u>). Russian heirloom described by some as the "ugliest, most delicious tomato"—a purplish-brown color. Good yields of 14 ounce brown-red, slightly flattened globes. Rich, slightly salty/smoky flavor, great for slicing and canning. *MG Seed Stock*.
- **Black Krim** (<u>Indeterminate—70-90 days</u>). Originally from the Isle of Krim in the Black Sea. With sufficient sunlight and heat, this Russian beefsteak turns almost black with green shoulders. Very juicy, with a fantastic, intense, slightly salty flavor. Considered one of the best "black" tomatoes. *MG Seed Stock*.
- Black Prince-organic (<u>Indeterminate—75 days</u>). A garden jewel all the way from Siberia!
   Unusual brown shoulders blend to orange-red at the blossom end. This 7 ounce slicing tomato makes a beautiful table presentation and has a rich, fruity flavor.
- **Black Sea Man-organic** (<u>Determinate—75 days</u>). Hardy Russian heirloom that produces in 75 days and does well in containers. ("The mahogany brown medium sized fruit has a delicious sweet-tart, complex tomato flavor. It has a combination of red, pink, green, and mahogany flesh, yielding the most unusual & beautiful tomato when sliced. A smallish plant, but a very good producer.") MG Seed Stock. (+Rch)
- **Bloody Butcher** (<u>Indeterminate—55 days</u>). Sensational, multi-purpose slicing tomato, with an unbeatable combination—very early and high-yielding. The name alone should make it a favorite! Strong tomato flavor in medium, 4 ounce fruits that are—you guessed it—deep, dark red inside and out. *MG Seed Stock*. (+Rch)
- **Boxcar Willie** (<u>Indeterminate—8o days</u>). Yields abundant crops of 10-16 ounce bright orangered tomatoes with a rich, sweet flavor and enough acid to lend a little tanginess. Good choice for canning, sauce, or salads. Good resistance to disease and cracking. Highly versatile, its long season makes it a mainstay of your tomato crop. (+Rch)



- Caspian Pink (Indeterminate—80 days). From southern Russia's warm Caspian Sea region, this is the first tomato to beat Brandywine in California taste tests! Often called the "Queen of the Pinks", with an incredibly sweet and juicy fruit that can reach one pound or larger. Great either fresh or cooked. Will do well in cooler areas. (+Rch)
- Cherokee Purple (<u>Indeterminate—75-90 days</u>). Pre-1890 variety, reputed to be an old Cherokee Indian heirloom. Uniquely colored dusty-rose-brown fruit weighing up to 12 ounces. Delicious, old-time flavor. ("The taste was outstanding. It wants a sunny spot. Very pretty-looking fruit, dark pink with green shoulders.") MG Seed Stock
- **Chianti Rose-organic** (<u>Indeterminate—78 days</u>). An exceptional beefsteak with rosy-pink thin skin and a complex, old-timey flavor. Sets heavy crops of 1-2 pound tomatoes earlier than most other large-fruited heirlooms. *MG Seed Stock*.
- **Chocolate Stripe-organic** (<u>Indeterminate—75 days</u>). Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds Catalogue said "One of the most amazing tomatoes we have ever grown. Both color and taste excel. It is very sweet." ("*Fruits have delicious, complex tomato flavors—rich, sweet, earthy.*") *MG Seed Stock*
- Cuore de Toro-organic (<u>Indeterminate—75 days</u>). Italian heirloom produces huge two pound(!) pinkish-red, oxheart-type tomatoes that are very meaty, excellent for sauces and canning. Vigorous plant. (+Rch)
- Czech's Bush-organic (<u>Determinate—66 days</u>). Masses of 4-8 ounce red fruit clusters are produced on a short, sturdy bush. Extremely productive, coming on early and bearing long after other determinates have stopped. Excellent for patio or small spaces. *New in 2015!*
- **Dr. Carolyn's Cherry** (<u>Indeterminate—65 days</u>). A sport of Galina's, named for Dr. Carolyn Male, tomato breeder and editor of an heirloom tomato newsletter—*Off the Vine*. <u>Southern Exposure</u> says it's "the most flavorful yellow cherry we've ever grown! Excellent balance of sugar, tartness and depth of flavor." Clusters of six pale yellow, round, 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" cherries grow on vigorous, well-branched plants. *MG Seed Stock*.
- Eva Purple Ball (<u>Indeterminate—75 days</u>). German heirloom bearing smooth, round 4-5 ounce blemish-free fruits with cherry red flesh. Very good flavor. Excellent resistance to diseases, including late blight. Does well in cooler areas. *MG Seed Stock*. (+Rch)
- Gold Nugget (<u>Determinate—60 days</u>). Another wonderful tomato developed by Dr. Jim Baggett at Oregon State University. Vigorous plants are loaded with ¾" round golden fruits from early season 'til frost. Unusually rich, sweet flavor when mature. *New in 2015!* (+Rch)



- **Hawaiian Pineapple** (<u>Indeterminate—90-95 days</u>). The name itself explains how wonderful this tomato is: large, yellow & red one pound fruit with excellent flavor—sweet and fruity, somewhat pineapple-like in taste. Productive and beautiful. *MG Seed Stock*.
- **Isis Candy** (<u>Indeterminate—90 days</u>). Gorgeous bicolor cherry tomato in heavy clusters with a spectacular yellow-gold cat's eye starburst on the blossom end. Delicious flavor that is wonderfully rich and fruity, but not sugary sweet. Kids love these garden treats. We've had such success with Isis Candy at *Our Garden* and were so impressed, we've propagated enough Isis Candy for everyone to take one home. Be sure to add it to your list! *MG Seed Stock*. (+Rch)
- Italian Heirloom-organic (Indeterminate—70-80 days). Outstanding heirloom from Italy. Robust plants loaded with fruit weighing up to one pound. ("A classic heirloom from Italy. Beautiful red, meaty tomatoes with complex, sweet flavor. Just what you would expect from a tomato revered by the Italians. A great tomato and a super choice for cooking, eating fresh or canning. Earliest of the heirlooms to ripen in my garden, and a prolific producer.") MG Seed Stock. (+Rch)
- Italian Roma Bush (<u>Determinate—85 days</u>). Produces *enormous* yields of large red tomatoes. Very meaty and perfect for canning. (+Rch)
- **Kellogg's Breakfast-organic** (<u>Indeterminate—80-90 days</u>). West Virginia heirloom beefsteak tomato with large orange fruits weighing from 1-2 pounds. ("*Delicious flavor with a good acid/sugar balance. Very productive plant.*") *MG Seed Stock.* (+Rch)
- **Legend-organic** (<u>Determinate—68 days</u>). One of the earliest-maturing tomatoes, 4-5", with a sweet flavor and just a little acid to add zing. Developed at Oregon State University, Legend shows strong tolerance to blight strains which makes it particularly well-adapted to West County's cooler climes. Great taste, early, and disease-resistant—an unbeatable combination! *MG Seed Stock*. (+Rch)
- **Lizzano Hybrid** (Semi-determinate—63 days). Ideal for baskets, containers and small gardens, this cherry has a non-stop harvest of small, 1" fruits, perfect for snacks, and salads. 16 to 20" plants are blight-resistant which lets them produce oodles of cherries to the very end of the season. ("My favorite cherry! Thin-skinned and tender with a sweet, mild flavor and no bitterness. It was prolific in an 18" pot. Just delicious!")



- Mandarin Cross (Indeterminate—76 days). Beautiful Japanese heirloom with round 6-10 ounce golden-orange fruit with sweet (low-acid) flavor. Prolific plant. Unsurpassed fresh eating! MG Seed Stock. (+Rch)
- Marvel Stripe (Indeterminate—85 days). Originally from Oaxaca, Mexico, it has become one of gardeners' favorite bicolored tomatoes because of its beauty, size and taste. Largest bi-color tomato. Fruits weigh about 1 pound, but may get up to 2 pounds, and have a rich, sweet, fruity flavor. Very prolific. MG Seed Stock.
- **Momotaro Hybrid** (Indeterminate—70 days). The most popular tomato in Japan and named after a hero—"Peach Boy"—in Japanese folklore, it has an unsurpassed taste that is sweet and intensely rich with just the right amount of acid to make it tangy at the same time. Radiant, dark pink slicers weigh up to 6-7 ounces. Heat tolerant and crack resistant, but will also grow well in West County. (+Rch)
- **Mortgage Lifter** (<u>Indeterminate</u>—80-90 days). As its name indicates, prolific family heirloom from Kentucky where "Radiator Charlie" Byles paid off his \$6,000 mortgage in the 1930s in six years—houses were much cheaper then! Produces 1-2 pound big, red, very flavorful beefsteak tomatoes. Plants are very productive, disease-resistant and long-bearing. ("Exceptionally meaty and crack-free. Great old-fashioned tomato flavor.") MG Seed Stock. (+Rch)
- Nebraska Wedding-organic (<u>Determinate—90 days</u>). The story told is that Nebraska brides were given these seeds as a wedding gift. Very romantic, but we can't think of a better wedding gift. Besides, they survived on the cold and windy plains of Nebraska! Produces lovely, apricot-orange 3-4" fruits that are juicy and have a well-balanced flavor. Can weigh up to one pound. New in 2015!
- **Opalka** (<u>Indeterminate—75 days</u>). Said by Seed Savers to have originated in Poland circa 1900, it is one of the best paste tomatoes we know. Fruits are far richer and more flavorful than most paste tomatoes and are shaped like a pepper, 4-6" long in clusters of 2 to 5. So sweet and refreshing, it can be eaten straight off the vine, but is highly prized for sauces and canning because it is extremely meaty. MG Seed Stock. (+Rch)
- **Persimmon** (Indeterminate—79 days). Vigorous and prolific heirloom produces 12 ounce to 2 pound persimmon-colored beefsteak tomatoes. Right at home in short-season gardens. One of the best-tasting yellow-orange tomatoes. Very sweet (low-acid). ("Beautiful, large slicer with rose/orange skin and flesh. Real eye candy in a tomato salad. Sweet, rich tomato taste another taste test winner. Persimmon is said to have been grown in Thomas Jefferson's garden.") MG Seed Stock. (+Rch)
- **Pink Bulgarian** (Indeterminate—85 days). Vigorous vines produce "more than large" fruits resembling red cantaloupes hanging on the vine. Pink, flattened beefsteaks can be up to two pounds, with solid flesh, few seeds and a very enjoyable mild, sweet flavor. MG Seed Stock



- Pomodoro Canestrino di Lucca (<u>Indeterminate</u>—80 days). Direct to you from the Italian province of Lucca! This tomato is part of the traditional "Basket of Lucchese," products selected for their local, authentic expression of Lucca. A beautiful ribbed basket shape, these fruits are red with a blush of green at the collar, have firm flesh, low acidity and high sugar, but aren't watery. Very versatile—great in salads or pasta, fresh or cooked. *New in 2015!*
- **Pompeii** (<u>Indeterminate—86 days</u>). Tall, productive vines produce heavy clusters of large, elongated Italian plum tomatoes with rich-flavored meaty flesh. Very disease resistant. An excellent sauce tomato. *New in 2015!*
- **Red Brandywine** (<u>Indeterminate—75 days</u>). One of the most popular, best-tasting heirloom tomatoes, vigorous plants produce large-lobed beefsteaks that are perfect for slicing. Luscious, old-timey red tomato flavor. Long season. *MG Seed Stock*
- **Red Bull's Heart** (<u>Indeterminate—90 days</u>). Very old Russian heirloom. A large pink (even if it is called *Red* Bull's Heart!) oxheart with excellent, sweet flavor. Fruits grow to 2 pounds or more(!) on strong, prolific plants. *MG Seed Stock*
- **Red Robin** (<u>Determinate—55 days</u>). Extra-sweet dwarf cherry with 1¼" fruits on compact plants, 8 to 12" tall. Ideal for patio containers or in hanging baskets. Can even be grown indoors on a sunny windowsill in an 8-inch pot! *MG Seed Stock*. (+Rch)
- San Marzano Gigante (Indeterminate—90 days). A heftier version of the classic San Marzano Regular with a magnificent, robust flavor to boot. Large, open plants produce enormous, meaty, ruby-red tomatoes, measuring 2½" wide and 7" long. ("Excellent yields that continue into the fall.") MG Seed Stock. (+Rch)
- San Marzano Regular (<u>Indeterminate—80 days</u>). Famous Italian cooking tomato filled with thick, dry flesh and few seeds. Superb flavor in slightly rectangular fruits hanging in clusters. Solid flesh is perfect for canning. *MG Seed Stock*.
- **Siletz-organic** (<u>Determinate—70 75 days</u>). Reliable and early! Flavor-packed, 4-5 inch, deep-red slicing tomatoes are nearly seedless, weighing up to 1 pound. Vigorous plant. Good acid taste in an early tomato. Developed by Dr. Jim Baggett at Oregon State University, these plants yield well in cooler weather. *MG Seed Stock*. (+Rch)
- **Sophie's Choice-organic** (<u>Indeterminate—65 days</u>). One of the earliest varieties, it produces flavorful, large fruits. Highly productive, but doesn't handle heat well. *MG Seed Stock*. (+Rch)
- **Stupice** (<u>Indeterminate—55(!)-75 days</u>). Originally from Czechoslovakia. Forms a compact plant with potato leaf-like foliage. One of the best early tomatoes with good yields. Very cold-tolerant, disease- and drought-resistant and bears until frost! What else do you want? Oh yes,



3-4 ounce delicious fruits in clusters. ("This tomato produced well in my garden with early, heavy yields all season. It has a great tangy tomato flavor.") MG Seed Stock. (+Rch)

- Sugar Sweetie (<u>Indeterminate—65 days</u>). Even though indeterminate, an excellent container tomato. Produces strongly tomato-flavored, 1 inch cherry tomatoes in grape-like clusters on 2' tall plants. *MG Seed Stock*.
- **Sun Sugar** (<u>Indeterminate—62 days</u>). Very sweet, fruity-tasting orange cherry tomatoes in long clusters on vigorous plants. Very crack resistant. Taste is so delightful, they may not make it into the kitchen from the garden. But what is lovelier than a sun-warmed tomato popped directly in your mouth? *New in 2015!* (+Rch)
- **Sungold Hybrid** (<u>Indeterminate—65 days</u>). A positively luscious, bite-size golden cherry that isn't fully mature until it turns bright apricot-orange with an intensified taste. Globes are borne in long 15" fruit trusses on a vigorous vine. Flavor is fruity, tropical. Great in salads or just for snacking! (+Rch)
- **Super Bush** (<u>Determinate—82 days</u>). Bred specifically for abundant yields in small spaces. 2½ to 3' plants produce juicy, red fruits with a sweet, old-fashioned tomato flavor. Perfect for growing in pots. *New in 2015! MG Seed Stock.* (+Rch)
- **Super Sweet 100 VF Hybrid** (<u>Indeterminate—65 days</u>). Long fruiting stems produce 100 or more super-sweet 1" diameter cherry tomatoes. Plants bear fruits throughout the season. Requires staking. Extra-high in Vitamin C. (+Rch)
- **Sweet Gold FT Hybrid** (<u>Indeterminate—60 days</u>). Abundant clusters of bright yellow-gold cherry tomatoes on vigorous vines. Delicious flavor that is naturally sweeter than red cherries. Once you've tasted them, you'll be spoiled forever. *New in 2015!* (+Rch)
- **Vorlon** (<u>Indeterminate—8o days</u>). Named for a fictional alien race on TV—who knows why—it is a stunning purple-black beefsteak with a rich, smoky-earthy taste that Baker Creek called its "best tasting tomato" last year. 1 pound fruits appear mid-season. *MG Seed Stock*. (+Rch)
- Wisconsin 55 Gold (Indeterminate—80 days). A yellow sport of the popular canning tomato released by the University of Wisconsin, this tomato was discovered in 1954 by beloved local plant pathologist, Dr. Bob Raabe, and was grown quietly for fifty years until its commercial release. Reliable yields of round, deep-gold fruit with an excellent flavor which are good for slicing, salads and canning. *MG Seed Stock*. (+Rch)
- Yellow Pear (<u>Indeterminate—78 days</u>). Miniature pear-shaped tomatoes with a clear yellow color. Wonderful in salads or as "garden candy" with a delightfully sweet flavor. Continuous harvest until frost. *New in 2015!* (+Rch)