

4. Pass the twine around the stake and tie.
5. Tie the plant as often as is necessary to keep it in place.

NB: Do not tie the plant too tightly against the stake.

HARVESTING:

Harvest tomatoes when they are fully

DISEASE	SYMPTOMS	CONTROL
Fusarium Wilt	Wilting of the plants usually at seedling stage; worsens progressively; eventual death.	Treat soil before planting with soil fungicide e.g. Ban-rot or Bravo.
Bacterial Wilt	Severe wilting of the plant; in 2-3 days.	Remove the affected plants; no chemical cure. Use tolerant varieties, e.g. Captain.
Tobacco Mosaic Virus	(1) Slight yellowing of entire plant (mild strain); (2) Stunting of the leaves at the growing point; Stunting of entire plant (severe strain);	Do not smoke in tomato field; No chemical cure (1) Does not affect production.

Growing Tomatoes Successfully



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Tomatoes can be grown all year round although some varieties do better than others during the rainy season. They are susceptible to the various types of wilting, and planting them on ridges helps to reduce this. Tomato takes approximately 3 months from transplant to maturity.

RECOMMENDED VARIETIES

Heat Wave: It is high yielding, and gives all year round production. Matures in 68 days after transplanting. Withstands high temperatures and is resistant/tolerant to wilting.

Heat Master: It has a medium maturity and vigorous large plant. The fruit is red and tasty with a long shelf life and weights 180—200 gms. It is tolerant to some strains of Bacterial wilt. It is also heat tolerant.

Others: Captain
Tropic Boy
Caribo
Calypso

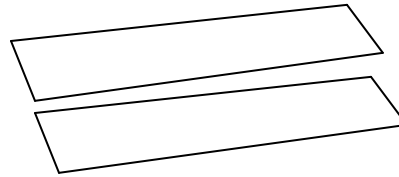
SEEDLING:

Using Styrofoam cups or seedling box/bed to prepare seedling.

1. Dust seeds with Sevin to prevent destruction from Ants and other soil insects.
2. Mix well rotted pen-manure into soil.
3. Sow seeds 1/2 inch deep in rows leaving 4 ins (10 cm) between rows. Cover seeds lightly with soil. If Styrofoam cups are used sow two seeds per cup and thin out later to the healthier one.
4. Wet as often as necessary. Your seeds will take approximately 5 days to germinate.

LAND PREPARATION:

1. One week before planting, clear land from all weeds, shrubs and debris.
2. Use beds on flat or gentle sloping land. On steep lands use ridges.
3. Beds should be 4 ft. in width allowing 8-10 inches for drains between each bed.



4. Treat soil with fungicide e.g. **Banrot (1 tsp/gal)**, or **Bravo (1 tbs/gal)** before planting to help prevent wilting.

PLANTING:

The seedlings will be ready for transplanting in approximately 3-4 weeks (about 20 cm tall). The best time to do your transplanting is in the evening or early morning when the weather is cool.

1. Water seedlings before transplanting to moisten soil and prevent damage to plants.



2. Dig holes - between rows- 3ft
- within rows - 11/2 ft
3. Apply one (1) handful of treated pen-manure to each hole.
4. Remove seedlings gently and place in hole at same level above soil as were in seedling box/bed or cups.
5. Firm up the soil around the roots and wet plants.

CULTURAL PRACTICES:

Fertilizer:

1. At 1-2 weeks after planting, apply 1 oz of **NPK** in a narrow band around the drip area of plant.
2. Two weeks after the first application, apply 2 ozs. of **NPK**.
3. At flowering, apply another 2 ozs of **NPK**.

STAKING:

Staking your tomatoes is a good practice and is highly recommended especially during the rainy season. You will need some stakes and twine (string) for tying.

1. Stake tomatoes 2-3 weeks after transplanting.
2. Place a sturdy stake on the leeward side of plant about 3 ins away.
3. Pass the twine once around the stem of the plant and twist it one turn.

