

2019 Heirloom Tomato Varieties

Annual Spring Plant Sale – UCCE Master Gardeners of Yolo County

Woodland Community College

Many of the varieties of tomatoes below have been grown for several years by local Master Gardeners at their homes or in our demonstration garden at Woodland Community College. The variety description is taken from seed catalogs, and the “Yolo County” comments are based on our experience growing them, and taste tests at the Woodland Tomato Festival held each August.

Variety	Type	Description	Color	Ripens
Abe Lincoln	Ind.	Medium sized meaty and flavorful almost round, disease resistant and slightly acidic. Yolo County: <i>Dependable MG favorite back by request.</i>	Red	Late
African Queen	Ind.	Large potato leaf plants produce heavy crops of 1-2 lb., 3-5”, jade-pink, lightly fluted beefsteak tomatoes with red flesh and delicious flavors. Yolo County: <i>Great flavor, good producer.</i>	Pink	Mid
Amana Orange	Ind,	Huge light orange beefsteak. Excellent sweet almost tropical fruit flavors. Yolo County: <i>Top scorer in 2017 tasting; good producer.</i>	Orange	Late
Big Rainbow	Ind.	Sweet tasting 2# beefsteak fruit. Very striking sliced, as the yellow fruits have neon red streaking through the flesh. Yolo County: <i>Favorite for color and taste after its debut in 2017.</i>	Yellow	Mid
Black Krim	Ind.	Beefsteak with intense flavor slightly salty. Fruits slightly flattened. Purple/black with green shoulders. Yolo County: <i>Good producer and scores high in taste tests, MG favorite</i>	Black	Mid
Black Sea Man	Det.	Potato-leaved medium black with green shoulders. Full bodied flavor, complex almost creamy tomato taste. Does well in container. Yolo County: <i>Top scorer in 2017 tomato tasting.</i>	Black	Mid
Carmello	Ind.	This hybrid heirloom has a rich, balanced tomato flavor. Heavy producer of medium sized red fruit. Good slicer; salads and sauces. Yolo County: <i>In top 10 2017 Tomato Festival tasting; good producer.</i>	Red	Mid
Cherokee Purple	Ind.	Beefsteak fruit to 1 pound with rich complex flavor. Purple black with dark interior Yolo County: <i>Good late season producer of above average taste.</i>	Black	Late
Chocolate Stripes	Ind.	Red with olive green striping; 3-4” fruit; produces well into the autumn garden; great sandwich and salad tomato. Yolo County: <i>Scored high in 2018 tasting</i>	Red/ Green	Mid
Green Zebra	Ind.	Small, round yellow/gold with green zebra stripes and lime-green flesh. Heat loving With lemon/lime flavor. Yolo County: <i>A must have but doesn't last long off plant.</i>	Green	Mid

Variety	Type	Description	Color	Ripens
Hawaiian Pineapple	Ind.	Large beefsteak with nice pineapple flavor, yellow/orange. Yolo County: <i>Scores high in taste and appearance.</i>	Yellow	Late
Legend	Det.	Short, bushy plants produce 3-4" smooth round fruit with few seeds. Great for salads and canning. Strong tolerance to west coast blight strains. Good for containers Yolo County: <i>Must have for many Master Gardeners</i>	Red	Early
Mexico	Ind.	Large plants yield 1-2 pound, slightly flattened, dark-pink beefsteak tomatoes. Bold, tomato flavors, sweet with complementary acid flavors. Great for slicing and salads. Yolo County: <i>New for 2019</i>	Pink	Mid
Mule Team	Ind.	An all-purpose tomato. Vigorous plants bear plenty of 8 to 12 ounce round, bright red tomatoes with excellent flavor and texture. Abundant harvest, long season. Yolo County:	Red	Mid
Orange Strawberry	Ind.	Oxheart shape with pronounced point at blossom end giving a distinct heart shape when sliced. Robust complex tart taste. Few seeds with lot of meaty flesh. Yolo County: <i>Often requested variety.</i>	Orange	Mid
Paul Robeson	Ind.	Purple/black beefsteak fruit slightly flattened round shape; up to 4" with green shoulders and red flesh; earthy, exotic flavor won "Best of Show" at Carmel Tomatofest. Yolo County: <i>A favorite black slicer scoring high in taste.</i>	Black	Mid
Pink Berkley Tie Die	Ind.	Heavy producer of dark pink/purple fruit with green stripes. Very meaty with excellent flavor Yolo County: Yolo County: <i>Favorite for Master Gardeners' own gardens,</i>	Pink	Early
Pork Chop	Ind.	True yellow medium sized slightly flattened beefsteak. Very sweet with hint of citrus Yolo County: <i>Scores high at Woodland tomato tasting.</i>	Yellow	Mid
Purple Calabash	Ind.	Flat, ribbed and ruffled 3" fruit; flavor is intense, sweet and tart, with a lime or citrus taste; deep purple burgundy. Yolo County: <i>New in 2018</i>	Purple	Mid.
Rose	Ind.	Amish heirloom, crack resistant, large, meaty fruit with excellent flavor. Vigorous plants provide a lot of leaf cover preventing sunburned fruits. Yolo County: <i>abundant producer</i>	Pink	Mid
Virginia Sweets	Ind.	Large, yellow beefsteak fruit with red stripes. Sweet rich flavor from abundant harvests. Yolo County: <i>Good taste with moderate productivity</i>	Yellow	Mid

Paste/Sauce/Drying Tomatoes

Variety	Type	Description	Color	Ripens
Costoluto Genovese	Ind.	Heat loving meaty, heavily lobed shape. Full flavor slightly acid, favored by Italian and American chefs. Good for sauces Yolo County:	Red	Mid
Principe Borghese	Det,	Short plants with high yields of big clusters of small plum shaped fruit. Prized for drying as retains flavor. Italians hang whole plant to dry, but also great for salads or canning. Yolo County: <i>The best ever for drying.</i>	Red	Mid
<u>Cherry/Grape/Plum Tomatoes</u>				
Amish Gold	Ind.	Cross between Amish Paste and Sungold; 1 ½ to 2" oblong shaped with pointed tip; color and flavor of Sungold and meatiness of Amish Paste. Sweet/tart tomato flavor. Yolo County: <i>One of top three taste test winners in 2018</i>	Orange	Mid
Black Plum	Ind.	Looks like a small mahogany paste tomato but has thin walls. Sweet tangy flavor with a steady crop throughout the season. Yolo County: <i>Brought back by request; good producer all summer; good taste.</i>	Black	Mid
Cuban Yellow	Ind.	Long clusters of grape tomatoes on tall, vigorous plants. Sweet and refreshing. Fruit can be picked individually with very little cracking. Yolo County: <i>New this year.</i>	Yellow	Late
Green Doctors	Ind.	Great flavor, making Green Doctors a favorite new green variety. Small tomatoes are about ¾-inch and borne on long trusses. Compared to Green Grape, Green Doctors is smaller and sweeter with a nice balance of tartness. Yolo County: <i>New this year.</i>	Green	Mid

Explanation of Terms

Heirloom – Always open pollinated plants, which means the seeds can be saved and used to reproduce the same tomato. Heirlooms have generally been saved for their superior qualities and passed on generation after generation.

Determinate (Det.) – The plant grows to a certain point then stops and sets fruit which then mostly ripen in a short period of time. Height is often four feet or less and may not need staking.

Indeterminate (Ind.) – The plant grows continually until it dies at the end of the season, continuing to flower, set, and ripen fruit. Plants can get quite large and most often produce best when staked or grown in a wire cage.