Casey's Heirloom Tomatoes of Airdrie

22th Edition

2027 Seed Catalogue

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Old Italian Pink 994g



Introduction

It is with great pleasure that I offer my twenty second heirloom tomato seed catalogue for your perusal.

My love for growing vegetables has grown exponentially from my first minuscule plot out behind my teachers' housing unit in a small town (Kamikawa-cho) in Hokkaido, Japan to my current garden. Growing heirloom tomatoes has turned me into a passionate hobbyist so much so that I firmly believe that others should also grow them and this provided the genesis for my heirloom tomato catalogue.

The exact definition of an heirloom tomato may evoke controversy amongst some growers as some believe that only after 50 years can a tomato be called an heirloom. I prefer to think of an heirloom as "something of value that can be passed on to the next generation". Our ancestors practised diligently the time honoured tradition of saving the seed from the harvest to be planted again the following year. It is precisely because someone took the time to save the seed for a variety they thought was delicious enough to grow the following year that I am able to offer a wide range of heirloom tomatoes in terms of shapes, sizes, colours, flavours and textures. I have tried my utmost to research the history of each variety and provide it for you, however, some varietal histories are unfortunately lost in time.

I have done my utmost to ensure the purity of my seeds that I offer by bagging the blossoms and naturally fermenting the seeds. Every seed I have raised myself in my backyard garden in the city of Airdrie, Alberta, Canada (Zone 3a).

Keeping track of and photographing so many tomatoes throughout the growing season reflects my own view that I like to see a picture of a tomato before I grow it; similarly, I use colour labels for my seed packets.

I do not use AI to generate any of the descriptions in both my catalogue and website.

I hope you, too, will share my passion for growing tomatoes with history.

Jeffrey Casey

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The standard Days to Maturity is, at best, a guess given that weather and the gardener's own cultural practices vary greatly. I find the following classification to be more informative:
Early less than 65 days Midseason 65~80 days Late 80+ days

All varieties are indeterminate unless otherwise noted.

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※*Any tomato can be grown in a pot; however, I have chosen these varieties because of their height and ease of maintenance.*

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Cherry

Ambrosia Gold

Early Midseason Regular Leaf

J and L Gardens (NM) developed this variety to meet the demands of farmers' markets and local restaurants. In my opinion, Ambrosia Gold comes the closest to to the sweetness of the famed Japanese hybrid, Sungold.



Ambrosia Gold will produce 16 cherries or so per truss that just burst with sweet, tropical flavour.





Andrina

Early Regular Leaf Dwarf Indeterminate

Andrina is another amazing sub-dwarf cherry that only grows to 13 cm (5") in height which makes it perfect for containers or tucking in the front of your garden bed, or growing under lights in the winter. Andrina produces a variety of cherry sized fruit that are sweet.

Black Cherry

Midseason Regular Leaf

The same rich, smooth taste of a typical black tomato can now be found in a cherry size. Black Cherry will produce up to 50 dusky pink fruit per truss. The greater the amount of exposure to and intensity of UV, the darker the colour of fruit that will be produced. This tomato was bred by the late Vince Sapp (Florida).



Cherry



Chocolate Cherry

Midseason Regular Leaf

Aaron Whaley's (Seed Savers Exchange) lofty goal for this tomato was to make a plant superior and more uniform than Black Cherry. I found Chocolate Cherry to be not quite as rich in taste as Black Cherry but it had a slightly sweeter taste. In addition, Chocolate Cherry fruit are much larger than Black Cherry. It really is a toss-up as to which of the two black cherry tomatoes tastes the best.

Dikovinka

Midseason Regular Leaf



This pink-black cherry does not taste like a typical black cherry. The best way to describe the taste of this cherry tomato would be to imagine crossing the Japanese hybrid cherry, Sungold, with a black cherry.The flavour is so very unique for this class of cherry tomato that you must try it! I received these seeds from Andrey Barnovski (Minsk, Belarus) who explained that they were a Russian CV (commercial variety).



Dr. Carolyn

Midseason Regular Leaf

Dr. Carolyn's roots can be traced to Galina's, which at times can be genetically unstable. The depth of flavour of this small cherry tomato will simply amaze you. The colour of this tomato will range from pale ivory to yellow depending on the weather and foliage cover (the more leaves the lighter the colour). This variety was named in honour of the late heirloom tomato guru Dr. Carolyn Male, who has raised over 2000 different heirloom tomatoes.

Cherry

Fahrenheit Sweet Red



Midseason Regular Leaf

I am overjoyed to introduce what I consider to be the sweetest non-hybrid cherry tomato. I purchased Tom Wagner's Fahrenheit Blues when he first released it in 2011. Tom wrote: " This is destined to be one of my HOT blues ! In the hope to fine-tune this variety, I will be looking, along with my lucky customers, to locate seedlings with long truss blue cherry tomatoes. The hotter the temperature and the hotter the sun, the bluer the tomatoes. The hotter the temperatures—the sweeter the flavours. I don't have many seed but if you want to try this one it is five seed only".

Every year I selected for the best combination of blue tinged tomatoes and flavour. Along the way the tomatoes went from entirely blue to a smudge at the stem to nothing at all so in the end **SWEETNESS** won out. I wish I would have found a cherry to add to the anthocyanin fad but I am so glad to have spent the last five years stabilizing it to this new variety.

Fahrenheit Sweet Red is a firm tomato but is not encumbered by the leathery skin like some cherry tomatoes that leave you wanting to spit them out. Thus, it will last long on and off the vine. In my growing conditions (Earthtainers) it registered 8.0% Brix while my Japanese hybrids measure slightly higher at 8.6% at the beginning of August.



Green Doctors

Midseason Regular Leaf

Green Doctors is one of the best tasting tomatoes you will ever try, little wonder given that its roots can be traced to Dr. Carolyn. Green Doctors is a green cherry sport of Dr. Carolyn and was found in the garden of Dr. Amy Goldman. Victor Schrager named it after a trout fly in honour of Drs. Carolyn Male and Amy Goldman. The sweet lime flavour made this tomato the family favourite since 2008.

Cherry

Green Doctors Frosted



Midseason Regular Leaf

In 2009, I grew out the few remaining seeds for Green Doctors that Dr. Male had sent me as I had one extra spot in my garden. I waited patiently for the fruit to take on their characteristic amber blush but thought it was little odd that they were taking so long to ripen up so I did the gentle squeeze test. To my surprise some of the fruits were very soft so I popped one in my mouth and '**very sweet melon**' thoughts ran through my head. After consulting Dr. Male about what I had here, she became aware that Neil Lockhart (Illinois) experienced the same epidermal mutation (from yellow to clear skin) in his garden from the same batch of seeds that originally came from Dr. Amy Goldman. Neil, Dr. Male and I decided to name this one Green Doctors Frosted as it reminds one of frosted grapes. An interesting side note is that there is only one other clear skinned green when ripe tomato- Tom Wagner's Verde Claro which is now publicly available.



Isis Candy

Midseason Regular Leaf

Isis Candy is a red cherry tomato that has lovely orange marbling to it and a distinctive cat's eye on the blossom end. After growing this tomato for many years, I would classify it is a Bi-Colour. This variety produces large cherry tomatoes with a sweet candy-like taste to it.

Cherry

Medovaya Kaplya (Honey Drop)

Midseason Potato Leaf

I received these seeds from Dr. Male who in turn had received them from Andrey Barnovski (Minsk, Belarus). Medovaya Kaplya produces adorable 30 g (1 oz.) golden yellow fruits that are sweet and very tasty. Medovaya Kaplya hails from Russia. The photo on the left gives a better picture of the unique shape- an elongated pear with a flat-sided top.





Mei Wei 美味

NEW

Midseason Regular Leaf

If you are looking for a tasty ,very sweet red cherry then this Chinese variety is it. In Mandarin, Mei Wei (美味) means delicious in English. The first kanji character means beautiful and the second means taste. This variety will produce bright red fruit- 15-22g (.5~.75 oz.) very high brix, over 8%, 50+ on multi trusses.



Metchosin Strawberry Cherry

NEW

Early Midseason Regular Leaf

Metchosin Strawberry Cherry was developed by Metchosin Farm on Vancouver Island, British Columbia. Long multi trusses of small, sweet, pink cherry tomatoes that, in my opinion, have a strong note of "strawberry". You really do need to try this variety to believe this unique taste profile.





Cherry



My Dancing Green Fingers

NEW

Midseason Regular Leaf

Marco F (AB) shared with me this very uniquely shaped cherry tomato- elongated tear-drop cherry tomatoes weighing 9-16g (1/3-9/16 oz). Belgian gardener, Bart Praet, developed this variety. Fruit will gradually take on a lighter hue of yellowish-green as they ripen up. Taste is outstanding, sweet (8.8% brix) honey like, and the texture is like a green grape.



Reinhard Kraft's Purple Sugar Cherry

Midseason Regular Leaf

This pink-black cherry lives up to its name, *Sugar*y sweet. Approximately 20 small cherries per truss. Reinhard Kraft of Germany developed this amazing tasting cherry tomato.





Rejina

Early Regular Leaf Dwarf

Rejina was introduced by the Japanese vegetable and seed company, Sakata Seeds. I think so highly of this variety that I have replaced Red Robin with it. It is of similar height to Red Robin, 30 cm (12") but I think the flavour is much sweeter and produces more and larger fruit, too.

Cherry

Rejina Yellow

Early Regular Leaf Dwarf

Rejina Yellow is the yellow cherry of Rejina. Similar in size and production to Rejina but with a slightly fruitier taste to it. I have replaced Yellow Canary with this variety.





Super Tumbler

Early Midseason Reg. Leaf Dwarf Determinate

A fellow tomato grower shared this variety with me at Calgary Seedy Saturday. Super Tumbler is the result of a cross between Red Alert and Tumbling Tom. Incredible production of large red cherry tomatoes, 20-40g (.7-1.4 oz.). Fruit hang in clusters of 6-12 per truss. Very juicy with a light sweetness characterize the flavour of this tomato.

Sweet Aperitif

Early Midseason Regular Leaf

I am always on the lookout for a sweet treat to pop in my mouth while gardening. Sweet Aperitif is so astonishingly sweet that you will think it is a hybrid. The first time I tried it, it knocked me for a loop as I thought to myself how can non-hybrid tomato taste so incredibly sweet. You will not be disappointed with production as the first truss will have up to 30 fruit on it and the later trusses are multi-floral. Simon Crawford and Mark Rowland of Gourmet Genetics developed this tomato with the goal of breeding better tasting open pollinated tomatoes; they have certainly succeeded with this tomato.



Cherry



Sweet Orange II

Early Midseason Regular Leaf

This cherry tomato has the same sweet and fruity taste of a large orange tomato. Some of my customers have commented that the flavour of Sweet Orange II makes it a worthy substitution for the hybrid, Sun Gold. Tim Peters of Peters Seed Research is responsible for breeding this variety that will produce 17 grams (5/8 oz.) hanging in clusters of up to 20. I am so grateful to Bobby Johnson Jr. (WA) for sending me his seeds to make this variety more widely available.

Sweet Tumbler

Early Regular Leaf Dwarf Determinate

An Australian Open-pollinated tumbler type pink cherry tomato that will only grow 6 to 8" tall. At times it will seem that this plant will produce more flowers than leaves. In terms of taste, this plant lives up to its name "sweet".





Tommy Toe

Midseason Regular Leaf

One taste of this red cherry tomato and you will see why it is one of Australia's most popular varieties, even though it originated in the Ozark Mountains. Tommy Toe has a great tomato taste melded with just the right amount of sweetness. Tommy Toe will usually set 12-16 different sized fruit per

Cherry

Venus

Early Regular Leaf Dwarf

Thompson & Morgan seeds released this variety in 2011. It is such a cute plant with its height coming in at about 15 - 20 cm. (6-8”) which makes it perfect for the window sill or for growing under lights in the winter. Fruity, sweet, small orange cherries are produced.





Verde Claro

Early Midseason Regular Leaf

I have had my eye on this green-when-ripe, clear skinned elongated cherry tomato ever since Dr. Carolyn Male mentioned it on an online tomato forum. Tom Wagner finally released his creation to the public in 2011. The taste of this clear-skinned cherry is one to be savoured as it is very sweet with a slight melon overtone to it.

Pinks

Aichi First　愛知ファースト

Midseason　　Regular Leaf

This Japanese heirloom traces its roots back to 1938 in Toyohashi, Aichi Prefecture.　(Henderson's) Ponderosa was brought to Japan during the Meiji Era (1868- 1912) (Henderson's Ponderosa was introduced in 1891) and was selected for over the years to this very large pink beefsteak- up to 2 pounds.　This is the epitome of what a large pink beefsteak should be- rich, meaty, juicy　and will easily cover a piece of bread.　Even in the challenging growing year we had in 2016, Aichi First was able to pump out the largest tomatoes in my garden.







Dwarf Arctic Rose

Early Midseason　　Regular Leaf　　Dwarf Indeterminate

I am so proud to offer this Dwarf Tomato Project release.　Here is what Craig LeHoullier wrote about this variety:　"Developed between 2006-2012 by the members of the Dwarf Tomato Project from a cross between Budai Torpe and Black from Tula, made in 2006 by Patrina Nuske Small in Australia and named Grumpy. Sherry Shiesl and Susan Bailey of Alaska carried out the majority of the selection work on this new variety, which was named collaboratively by them in 2011. Early to mid season. Regular leaf, dark green rugose foliage, stout central stem, grows to 3 feet tall - relatively compact for a Dwarf project release. Fruit are smooth and round to oblate, ranging from 3-8 ounces, and ripen pink (clear skin, red interior). Flavor is well balanced and delicious."　Ted Maiden (TN) was so very generous with providing me the seed to make this variety more widely available.　Make sure you provide this powerhouse of a tomato with plenty of support because its production is prodigious.

Pinks

Goose Creek



Midseason Regular Leaf

Goose Creek is one of the most controversial heirloom tomatoes due to its US Patent attempt and rather interesting history promoted by Jimmy Williams (CA). According to the patent application (US 2004/0226061),

The Goose Creek tomato line has been developed from seed that was originally planted in the Gullah region of South Carolina. The original Gullah tomato plantings are believed to have been established with seeds brought into the region by African people who had been forcibly taken from Africa to the Gullah region of South Carolina. The seeds used for the original plantings from which the Goose Creek tomato line has been developed were closely held in a single family and passed down through that family for generations. Over the past 51 years seeds from the family legacy have been cultivated and bred to develop a consistent, reproducible line, which is referred to herein as the Goose Creek tomato line.

Unfortunately, the historical record for tomatoes of that period indicates that no large smooth tomatoes existed. (see Andrew Smith. The Tomato in America: Early History, Culture and Cockery)

Another claim Jimmy makes about this tomato is its unique two stage ripening.

The fruit has an unusual characteristic of two distinct stages of ripeness with fruit at the first ripe stage having characteristic green shoulders and an orange coloration on the remainder of the fruit. At the second ripe stage the fruit have a characteristic overall red color. The fruit are edible at both ripe stages. The fruit in the first ripe stage exhibits a medium to firm texture with a citrus-like, fruity flavor. The fruit in the second ripe stage exhibits a soft to medium firmness and is higher in juice and Brix (sugar) content than is present in fruit at the first ripe stage. Thus, the fruit can be harvested at either of two different stages to yield the unique appearance, texture, and flavor properties characteristic of ripeness at each stage.

Regardless of this tomato's background, I found this tomato to be of excellent taste due to its juicy and very sweet, and meaty texture. Goose Creek will produce *6-8+ ounce*s (170-225+ g) round and oblate fruit that hang in bunches of three to six.

Pinks



Maliniak

Early Midseason Regular Leaf Dwarf Indet.

This Polish commercial variety must be staked/caged as it is so heavily laden with 80 - 200 gram (3 - 7 oz.) sweet, juicy, raspberry pink fruits. Fruit shape varies from round to slightly elongated. The plant height tops out at 1 m (3').



Novikov's Giant-10 (aka Gigant-10 Novikova)

Midseason Regular Leaf

A.I. Novikov, a Russian amateur tomato breeder-enthusiast, developed this exceptionally prolific, large (up to 1 kg), raspberry-pink, ribbed beefsteak tomato during the days of the old USSR. I found this plant to have so many large tomatoes on it that I had to provide additional support for it. This tomato is a rare combination of great taste and extreme productivity, and needs to be more widely grown and appreciated.





Rosyve Krupnye

Midseason Regular Leaf

HUGE PRODUCTION! Fruit size averages 10 ozs. (290g) to 1 lb. (454g) My heaviest fruit was 640g (22.6 ozs.) in the summer of 2022. This Russian variety translates as "Large/Big Pink/Rose". You must support the trusses as evidenced by the picture as the weight of the fruit will rip the truss right off the stem. Not only does Rosvye Krupnye have incredible production for such a large fruit variety, the taste is right up there with the best tasting pinks- sweet, juicy and meaty.



Pinks

Yusupovskyi S Fergany

Midseason Regular Leaf



I received this variety from a fellow tomato grower with the name of Yusupovskyi S Fergany, meanin Mr. Yusupov of Fergany, a region in eastern Uzbekistan. However, it is also referred to as Yusupov in recognition of a selection that Karim Yusupov, a famous vegetable breeder from the Uzbek Research Institute of Vegetables and Gourds. I believe I have found THE TOMATO for my taste buds. This variety is absolutely divine- so meaty, juicy and sweet. Fruit size- just over 400g (14 ozs.) up to 550g (19 ozs.) and average 4 per truss. Yuspovskyi S Fergany is a must for an Uzbek salad, *Achichiq Chukchuk,* tomato, cucumber and onion salad.



Hearts

Cuor di Bue

Midseason Regular Leaf

In the Spring of 2011 I traded heirloom tomato seedlings with a fellow tomato enthusiast in Calgary, AB. His elderly Italian immigrant neighbours grow only one tomato and this is it- Bull's Heart. Short stocky plant with wispy foliage, Cuor di Bue will produce up to 900 g (2 lbs.) fruit.





Hays' Tomato

Midseason Regular Leaf

Frances Machum (Alberta) was ever so generous to share this variety with me in 2008. Frances received these seeds from the proprietor, Bob Ponting, of a cafe in Hays, Alberta. The gentleman said they were his family's heirloom from Bulgaria. The name of this variety has long been lost, so Frances decided to name them after the city of Hays.

Kosovo

Midseason Regular Leaf

A UN worker found this variety in a market in Kosovo, Yugoslavia and sent it back to his father in New Zealand. The UN worker's father then shared it with a local grower, Glenn Parker, who knew that this variety was a winner. From Glenn this variety was then traded with US heirloom tomato growers. My source for this variety was Dr. Male. Expect to support this plant because it produces many sweet, juicy and meaty heart shaped tomatoes and the occasional double-heart fruit (pictured right) in the 1 lb. (450 g) range.



Hearts



Old Italian Pink

Early Midseason Regular Leaf

Trevor Wannop of Calgary (AB) contacted me about this variety he received from his old Italian neighbour. Trevor helped the elderly gentleman out with rototilling his garden. This gentleman shared with Trevor his prized family heirloom. The gentleman was an uncertain speller as he had written "*Pomadori a cuore sangueli*" on the pill bottle he put the seeds in. I believe he was trying to describe the tomato as blood heart. My guess is that he or someone in his family brought over a red bull's heart variety and he selected the best variety year after year and along the way it mutated into a pink heart. Trevor and I decided to call it Old Italian Pink. By the far the earliest heart shaped variety that I offer and it produces such large, sweet, meaty fruit that contain very few seeds make this a must grow for all growers. (I have never limited the number of seeds that I put in a seed package but this one produced so few seeds for me that I can only offer 20 per package, my apologies.) The picture is of a 1.2 kg (42 oz.) specimen.



Hearts

Pietro's Secret

Midseason Regular Leaf



Murray Sowerby from Olds, Alberta which is just north of me contacted me via email (see below) concerning his family's heirloom.

My son in law's father (since deceased) had grown these and saved seed for decades since they immigrated from the Venice area of Northern Italy, where he said his family had grown them for generations.

They are indeterminate but not the most vigorous plants I have ever seen.This blunt heart variety has extremely good flavour, even the really big ones. Numerically they are not huge producers but with the average size being in excess of 500g, the yield is quite acceptable. I must say that they caused quite a stir at the golf club when I showed up one day with 3 tomatoes still on the branch, which when weighed were 1110g, 820g and 650g.

He came to Canada in 1952, but I doubt that an 18 year old boy would have brought tomato seed with him at that time.It is more likely that he brought them back on one of his visits home later in life.When he gave me the seed about 12 years ago, he told me that his family had grown these tomatoes for generations. How long he had grown them in Calgary I don't know. I got together with our daughter and her family on the weekend. My son in law is really pleased to think that his father's tomatoes are making it into your catalogue so that others can also enjoy them. In honour of his father, we came up with the name "Pietro's Secret".

I concur with Murray as the flavour is extremely good. The fruit exhibit distinctive ribbing at the stem end.



Russian #117

Late Midseason Regular Leaf

Do not let the wispy, droopy foliage, characteristic of many heart shaped tomatoes fool you into thinking that this variety will not produce. On the contrary, Russian #117 will produce red hearts and many double hearts in the 1-2 lb. (.5-1 kg) range. The flesh of this variety is something to be savoured because it is so dense yet full of sweet, zippy flavour.



Hearts



Taiga

Early Midseason Potato Leaf

Taiga is very unique in that is a tricoloured potato leafed heart shaped variety. Mixture of red, green and yellow coloured fruit that weigh up to 800g (28 ozs.) and contain very few seeds.



Karen Oliver (BC) breed this sweet, juicy heart. Taiga is a Russian word that refers to the boreal forest region of the high northern latitudes of Canada, Russia and the Nordic countries.

Zena's Gift

Midseason Regular Leaf



Karen Oliver (now of BC) so generously shared with me the following story about this variety:
It's a heart but blunt and often big and round as a softball with the ridged shoulders. No green, thin skin, all over pretty pink. big RL plants. 16 oz. blunt heart
About 15 years ago now, my good friend was the manager of a garden centre gift shop in Edmonton. One day, a very elderly gent came into the shop asking for one of the employees, a pretty older lady named Zena. He proudly gave her a present of a single huge pink tomato that filled up the whole bottom of the paper lunch bag he carried it in.
He apparently had been growing this tomato in Edmonton for many years, his pride and joy. Everyone agreed he seemed to admire Zena quite a lot... Zena shared the tomato with the other ladies over lunch and my friend, knowing my interest in tomatoes, saved a few seeds from it and gave them to me.
I grew them out and they produced a large RL ind plant, with distinctively ridged very large 12- 16 0z pink globe/blunt oxheart of an unusual shape. Early for a large tomato, maybe 75 days, few seeds, sweet with a very thin delicate skin. no green shoulder small blossom scar. It is stable and consistently did well in my Edmonton area garden. I have grown it and saved seed since.



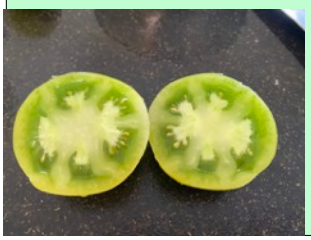
As my knowledge of tomatoes and interest grew I later tried to find out more about the man and the tomato but time had gone by and the gentleman was not to be found.
I asked on Tomatoville and posted photos asking for help with ID which can not be determined so named it Zena's Gift for the story of how I came to have the seed.
… Maybe I should send you some seed for Zena's gift. I will if you would like to try it, it's a great tomato for a zone 3 garden. My only expectation is that the provenance follows the tomato. Heirlooms are more interesting with their story attached.

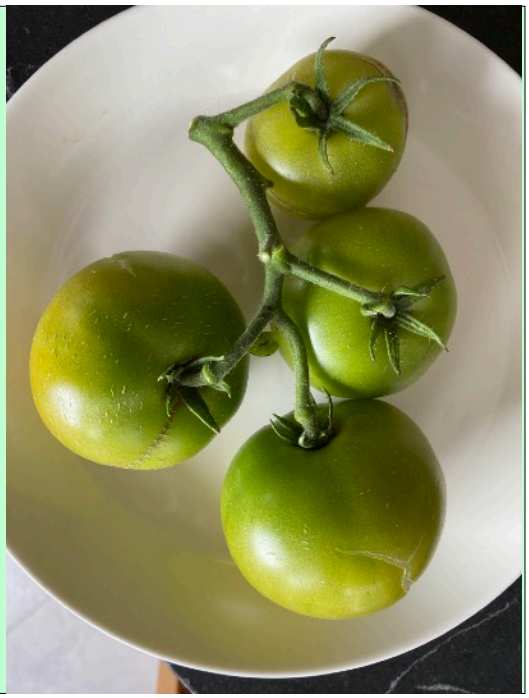
Greens (when fully ripe)

Dwarf Sara's Olalla Emerald

Midseason Potato Leaf Dwarf

Dwarf Sara's Olalla Emerald was so generously given to me by a fellow tomato grower whom I had contact with many years ago on Tomatoville. First bite into this tomato and immediately thought- REFRESHING- juicy with a slight hint of citrus. Craig LeHoullier stabilized this variety from a cross between Yellow White and Dwarf Jade Beauty. He named it after his eldest daughter Sara. Plants will grow to just over a meter (3') with round fruit weighing 80-120g (3-5 oz.) that hang in clusters of 5.







Lime Green Salad (aka Green Elf)

Early Regular Leaf Dwarf

Tom Wagner created this tomato as well as a few other famous fully ripe green tomatoes: Green Grape and Green Zebra. Lime Green Salad is excellent for growing in pots as the plant will stay quite small (20" x 24" wide). The flavour of these small 3-5 oz.(80-120 g) fruit tends to polarize those who try it because it is quite bold and tangy.

Blacks

Boronia



Midseason Regular Leaf Dwarf

Boronia is another Dwarf Tomato Project introduction of a selection of a cross between New Big Dwarf and Paul Robeson. This variety will need plenty of support as it will produce so many dusky rose (pink black), oblate fruit that weigh on average 9 - 13 oz (250 - 370g). Plant will grow about 1m (3') tall and wide. Taste is EXCELLENT, reflecting the superior genes of both parents.





BrandyFred

Midseason Potato Leaf Dwarf

The picture to the right is of an 805g (1lb 12.4 oz) specimen. This dwarf variety will grow to about 1.2 m (4') tall and wide and will need support for the plant and trusses with such large fruit being produced. BrandyFred reminds me of Cherokee Chocolate in terms of colour and taste.

Bundaberg Rumball

Midseason Regular Leaf Dwarf

Bundaberg Rumball is the result of selecting from a cross between Budai Torpe and Black from Tula by Richard Allen. This regular leaf dwarf variety will produce an abundance of small 60 - 95g (2.1 - 3.4 oz) round fruit on of trusses of six that are very juicy and sweet.



Blacks



Cherokee Chocolate

Midseason Regular Leaf

Craig LeHoullier noticed one year that one of his Cherokee Purple plants had much darker fruits than the others. He grew out the seeds the following year and they produced the same dark coloured fruit which was the result of a spontaneous epidermal (skin) mutation. The rich, sweet, smooth taste of Cherokee Chocolate is similar to Cherokee Purple. 6 -12 oz. (170-340 g) oblate fruit are produced.



Cherokee Purple

Midseason Regular Leaf

J.D. Green received these seeds from his neighbour who told him that they have been in the family for over 100 years and were originally from the Cherokee Indians. J.D. Green then sent some seeds to Craig LeHoullier who is responsible for its introduction in North America. The unique purple-tinged colour of this tomato coupled with its excellent flavour have made the Cherokee tomatoes a mainstay in my garden.





JD's Special C-Tex

Early Midseason Regular Leaf

In the 1980's, J.D. Brann of Conroe, Texas stabilized a cross between Early Girl (hybrid) and Black Krim (Russia) according to his grandchild. While I am no fan of Early girl, the result of JD's work is one of the finest tomatoes I have ever tasted. The taste of this along with Vorlon in 2008 absolutely blew me away. I am so glad two fellow heirloom tomato enthusiasts from Texas shared the seeds with me.



Blacks

Vorlon



Early Midseason Potato Leaf

Vorlon is named after an alien race from the TV Show Babylon 5. Vorlon is the result of a cross between Cherokee Purple and Pruden's Purple. Some people consider Vorlon a more productive version of Cherokee Purple. This pink-black tomato shares the same great meatiness, juiciness and tastiness of Cherokee Purple.



Orange/Yellow/Whites

Big Sungold Select

Early Midseason Regular Leaf



Big Sungold Select is another attempt to de-hybridize the much vaunted Japanese hybrid Sungold. An Austrian sent Manfred Hahm, a German heirloom tomato enthusiast, some selections. Manfred Hahm then shared the seed with Reinhard Kraft and together they grew it out. Reinhard found one with bigger fruits which he then named Big Sungold Select. This variety may not be completely stable as it has thrown off some off-coloured fruits; however it has always bred true for me.



Casey's Pure Yellow

Midseason Potato Leaf

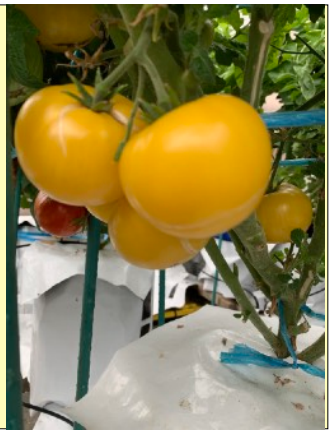
I grew out Green Giant in 2007 from Annie Neoh (San Jose, CA) and was surprised to find that the fruit ripen to yellow. Green Giant being a potato leaf, I suspected that it had mutated to yellow because potato leaf is recessive. It seems from the unknown origins of Green Giant that four different plants have been produced: green when ripe regular leaf; green when ripe, potato leaf; yellow, regular leaf; and, the tomato I named yellow, potato leaf. I sent the seeds to Australia for their 2007 summer growing season and was very happy to find out that it grew true for them. I have shared the seeds with a few others including Craig Lehoullier (NC) who described it as a highlight in his 2008 garden. Casey's Pure Yellow is a rare tomato because it is the only other beefsteak, potato leaf that keeps its yellow colour when fully ripe. Most yellow tomatoes will ripen to a golden colour. Sweet, tropical fruit-like sweeties and incredibly juicy tomatoes make Casey's Pure Yellow something special.



Citron Compact

Midseason Regular Leaf Dwarf

Citron Compact is another great tree-type (dwarf) tomato. It produces round yellow fruits that have definite notes of citrus and a touch of tropical fruit like sweetness. Compact plants will grow to about 1 m.



Orange/Yellow/Whites



Golden Queen

Midseason Regular Leaf

One of the greatest tomato seedsmen in America in the 19th century, Alexander W. Livingston, found a beautiful yellow tomato at county fair. "As I was examining it closely, and admiring it, the owner saw fit to make me a present of one of them, which I prized highly, and took special care to preserve, test and improve. I had it a number of years before I introduced it; but, in 1882 I thought it advisable to give it wider circulation and so advertised it extensively.... It is of a bright golden yellow color, uniformly smooth, good size, most prolific, early ripening, and is a first class all purpose tomato." (Livingston and The Tomato. 1893. p.29-30)

When fully ripe Golden Queen will have a lovely pink blush on the blossom end. Fruit size is usually between 8-12 oz. (240-340g).

Jaune Flammée

Midseason Regular Leaf

Jaune Flammée is a French heirloom dating back to the 1800s. One bite of these 2-3 oz. (33-66 g) and the flavour will literally explode in your mouth. These tomatoes usually hang in clusters in 6 or more and have a deep orange colour exterior with blood-orange interior.







Native Sun

Early Regular Leaf Determinate

Tim Peters of Peter's Seed & Research of Riddle, Oregon has bred the earliest yellow determinate tomato. Native Sun will come in at around the same time as the earliest cold-hardy red determinate tomatoes. These tomatoes do not have a very long shelf life but that does not seem to matter as its refreshing flavour will have you eating them right off the vine.

Orange/Yellow/Whites

Utyonok

Early Midseason Regular Leaf Determinate

Beautiful orange fruit that sometimes exhibit an elongated blossom end are born in profusion on very short 45 cm (18 inches) tall vines that spread out about 60 cm (3 feet). Fruits average about 50 - 90 grams (1.75 - 3 oz.) and have a nice zing to them. Utyonok means “duckling” in Russian.





Yuko’s Persimmon Perfection

Early Midseason Regular Leaf

One of my customers grew out some of my KBX seeds and said that they were regular leaf seedlings. KBX is an orange beefsteak with potato leaves which was itself a mutation from Kellogg’s Breakfast, a regular-leaf orange beefsteak. I grew out the seeds in 2014 to see what I would get and sure enough there were regular leaf seedlings. After consulting online with Carolyn Male to make sure that what I had was not Kellogg’s Breakfast, she assured me that it is a new variety, genetically speaking. I decided to name this variety after my wife and the incredible texture this tomato has, just like a persimmon!

This orange beefsteak is not only productive—the total weight from the first two trusses was 3.151 kilograms (close to 7 pounds) with one fruit that weighed 558 grams (19.7 ounces)—but the strong fruity sweet flavour will make this variety your “go to” orange beefsteak!



Striped/Bicolours

Blush

Midseason Regular Leaf

Up to 11 absolutely gorgeous elongated large cherry tomatoes will be produced on each truss. Fred Hempel (CA) developed this tropical sweet tasting tomato. I found that you should let it get soft to the touch before enjoying it.





Chocolate Lightening

Midseason Regular Leaf Dwarf

Chocolate Lightening produces smooth, slightly oblate fruits that weigh up to 550g (19.5 oz.). The fruit are striped with jagged bronze/gold stripes that are borne in profusion and the taste is absolutely outstanding, like the finest black tomato. This variety is the result of growing and selecting from a cross between Dwarf Wild Fred and Beauty King by the Dwarf Tomato Project. It was first introduced in 2015.

Dwarf Beauty King

Midseason Regular Leaf Dwarf

Dwarf Beauty King produces absolutely gorgeous golden striped red oblate fruits that hang clusters of 3 to 4 and weigh between 115 - 285+ g (4 - 10+ oz.). A friend of mine grew out this tomato in 2017 and we were both completely gob-smacked with the taste of its distinctive navel orange finish.



Striped/Bicolours



Green Zebra

Midseason Regular Leaf

Tom Wagner created this amazing looking green when fully ripe tomato. When fully ripe the flesh colour will take on a blush of yellow and sometimes, due to environmental conditions, an orange hue. The taste of this variety is zippy but with hint of sweetness. The fruit are slightly flattened round globes weighing 2-3oz(85-115g).

Jarson 1

NEW

Midseason Regular Leaf



Jarson 1 was developed by independent hobby Polish tomato breeder who goes by the name “Jarson”. His/her numbered tomato creations are highly sought after by the informal network of heirloom tomato growers all over the world. One can expect very productive, oblate beefsteaks (180 - 284g, 6 1/3 - 10 oz.) , extremely juicy, incredibly flavourful chartreuse green with green stripes and slight red blush on the blossom end.



Striped/Bicolours



Little Lucky

Midseason Potato Leaf

In 1997, Craig LeHoullier grew out some Brandywine seeds he had saved from 1993. Amongst the expected potato leaf plants there was one regular leaf. He decided to grow out that one seedling and from it came tomatoes that were pink with yellow vertical stripes and mottled red and yellow interior. Suspecting that this was an unknown cross, caused by a bee, Craig grew out the F2 and eventually stabilized this tomato to its current form. With Brandywine as one of its parents, you know this tomato will have an outstanding taste to it, sweet with fruity overtones.

3-4 oz (85-115 g) fruit.



Lucky Cross

Midseason Potato Leaf

Lucky Cross is the big sister to Little Lucky. Craig also stabilized this tomato at the same time as Little Lucky. Its oblate fruits with some ribbing are generally in the range of 1+ lb. (450 g). The flavour of this bi-colour is deeper and richer than that of its younger sister.





Mr. Stripey (aka Tigerella)

Early Regular Leaf

This tomato was created by Glasshouse Crops Research Institute in England. Mr. Stripey produces 2-2.5 oz. (50-70 g) round red fruits with beautiful golden stripes that are on the tart side but do develop an addictive sweetness.



Striped/Bicolours



Pink Berkeley Tie-Dye

Early Midseason Regular Leaf

One bite and this tomato will make you sit up and take notice of its bold flavour. Brad Gates (CA) found this variety amongst some F2 Beauty King tomatoes. Iridescent green stripes on a deep red back ground make this one of the most eye-catching tomato fruits around.



Pink Berkeley Tie-Dye will produce fruits that weigh on average 200-350 g (7 to 12 oz.)

Striped Sweetheart

Midseason Potato Leaf

Lee of North Carolina is the originator of this tomato. Here is how he describes it: " 75 DTM Indeterminate potato leaf plant produces a very good yield of 4 oz. heart shaped fruit with red and orange stripes. It has an excellent sweet tomato flavor. This is a newly stabilized variety from the same cross that Lucky Cross and Little Lucky came from."





Striped Sweetheart Dark

Midseason Potato Leaf

Sherry (AK) purchased some of my Striped Sweetheart seeds in 2011 and had one plant produce fruit like that above and the other one produced a black tomato. Since Striped Sweetheart is a potato leafed plant, I was quite sure a mutation had occurred. I grew out the seeds in 2012 and it produced exactly as Sherry described - a black tomato with bronze striping. Dean Slater (MI) also reported to me that he too had the same mutation and surprisingly enough named it the same; of course, I had no knowledge of this when I was presented with this mutation. The taste is not as sweet as the original but is much richer in flavour. In addition, there is an incredible amount of juice in both the meat and seed cavity. For some reason, this variety is two or three times as productive as the Striped Sweetheart and produces larger fruit, too.

Paste

Casino

Midseason Regular Leaf



Casino is a large red paste tomato that produces 170-225 g (6-8 oz.) fruit on trusses up to 6 fruit. Pat Cici (MI) brought his family heirloom tomato seeds with him when he immigrated to the US as a teenager. Pat and his neighbour who shared the seeds with me, Joe Rarus, decided to name it after Pat's hometown of Casino, Italy. I grew out San Marzano Redorta and Casino side by side and Casino came out on top in terms of fruit size and weight, plant health, number of fruit (The first harvest yielded13 fruit from Casino compared to a single for San Marzano Redorta) and most importantly, taste. While I classify Casino as a paste variety, it has the taste and juice to be eaten fresh or my past season's favourite- in a BLT.







Datterino

Midseason Regular Leaf Determinate

Datterino is of Italian heritage meaning 'little dates'. It is an incredibly productive producer of mini roma tomatoes that are borne on 1m (3') tall plants. 25 gram (almost 1 oz.) fruit that can be used for saucing, drying or eating fresh off the vine.

Paste

Martino's Roma



Midseason Regular Leaf Determinate

Martino's Roma is such a great tomato for making sauce and drying. Very prolific plant with deep green foliage that produces 55 g (2 oz) fruit that hang in clusters of up to 6. I have always been hesitant to grow out the very famous paste tomato, San Marzano, as I have heard from my experienced growers that it lacks flavour, but I thought I should at least see for myself. In 2014, I grew out San Marzano and it was a disappointment all around- few fruit and bland taste. I guess I should have abided by the famous lyrics, "don't believe the hype." Make Martino's Roma your paste tomato!



Napoli

Midseason Regular Leaf

Short, stocky plants will produce 8 - 10 fruits per truss that are blocky with slightly tapered blossom end, 9 x 4.5cm (3.5" x 1.75"), weigh 70 - 115 grams (2.5 - 4 ozs) and are very dense and meaty.

Paste

Peter's Pride



Midseason Regular Leaf

Glenda Zamzow (AB) so generously shared with a few tomato varieties from an Italian gentleman neighbour, Peter Pasquini. Peter was becoming overwhelmed with his yearly vegetable garden at the age of 92. Glenda was able to rescue a few prized specimens. Since they did not have names Glenda named in Peter's honour. Peter's Pride is an elongated paste tomato with distinctive pointing blossom end. Fruit weight ranges from 140 - 210 grams (5 - 7.4 oz.). Excellent for sauce making as it has few seeds and quite dry flesh.



San Marzano Bush

Midseason Regular Leaf Determinate

I was quite surprised by the determinate version of this very famous paste tomato. I have grown the indeterminate and found it lacking in terms of production. However, the determinate version is very productive. It produces larger fruit 100g (3.5 oz.) than my go to paste- Martino's Roma and is slightly sweeter too.

San Marzano Lampadina II



Late Midseason Regular Leaf

Lampadina means "small lamp" in English. Lampadina II will produce 110 - 170g (4 - 6 oz) firm, dry fruit that are excellent for saucing and drying. This variety is an indeterminate.



Reds

Bloody Butcher



Early Potato Leaf

Bloody Butcher rivals all other extra early varieties that I have grown given its superb taste and productivity. It will produce up to 10 per truss and each fruit will weigh on average 2 ozs. (55 g). This variety was bred by the Dutch company Sahin Seeds and released in 1998.



Bulgarian Triumph

Late Midseason Regular Leaf

This variety may remind you of those "on the vine" cluster tomatoes in the supermarket because it is quite reliable in ripening up evenly. However, the taste of this tomato will be an explosion in your mouth, this tomato was the sweetest most intensely flavoured tomato in my garden in 2005 and it will be well worth the wait. Bulgarian Triumph will hang in clusters of 4 to 6 and weigh 2-4 oz. (55-115 g)

Early Lethbridge



Early Regular Leaf Determinate

According to The Canadian Journal of Plant Sciene Volume 43 Oct. 1963, "The Early Lethbridge tomato variety was introduced by the Lethbridge Research Stations in 1953 following 8 years of intensive testing. Prior to and following its introduction this tomato proved to be particularly outstanding for its early maturity, fruit size and deep red colour…early maturity of Early Lethbridge may be partially attributed to its ability to set fruit at night temperatures as low as 50°F." http://www.nrcresearchpress.com/doi/pdf/10.4141/cjps63-124 Early Lethbridge will produce 40 -90g (1.4 - 3.2 oz) fruit that hang in clusters of 4 to 6 with robust flavour.

Reds



Early Siberian (aka Sibirskiy Skorospely)

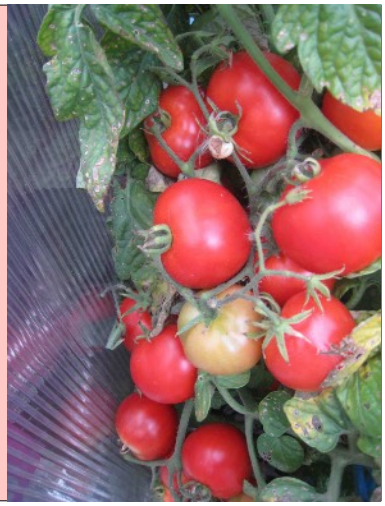
Early Regular Leaf

This tomato is an especially cold tolerant variety created by the Western-Siberian Potato-Vegetable Experimental Lab (Zapadno-Sibirskaya Ovoshchnaya Opytnaya Stantsiya in Barnaul, Altai region) that will produce 120 g (4 oz.) red fruit. Early Siberian was the sweetest, earliest tomato in my 2004 garden.

Japanese Dwarf (aka Yaponskiy Karlik)

Early Regular Leaf Dwarf Determinate

This Russian tomato plant will grow only about a 50 cm tall (20 inches) and produce so very many small, red, round tomatoes. Japanese Dwarf can withstand even the toughest growing conditions.





Kimberley

Early Potato Leaf

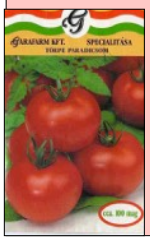
John de Rocque from Kimberley, BC, crossed Tiny Tim with Siberia and stabilized it to this short, potato leaf plant. This one will produce early and you will be impressed its ability to produce all season long. Red fruits are quite tasty with flavour that is smoother than most early season varieties.

Reds

Mano

Early Regular Leaf Dwarf

A Hungarian dwarf tomato with rugose foliage will grow to only about 1.5 feet (45 cm). I was very impressed with the flavour of this early (the first non-cherry of 2007) tomato, very sweet with a nice balance of tomato flavours to finish. The globe-shaped fruit will usually weigh between 50-60g (2-2.5 oz)







Matina (aka Tamina)

Early Potato Leaf

This tomato is a German OP commercial variety that has been around for 40 years. Matina will produce an abundance of perfect red globes that weigh 3-5 oz. (85-140 g), with a full bodied flavour normally belies early fruited varieties.



Reds

Maya & Sion's Airdrie Classic



Early Midseason Potato Leaf

Dr. Carolyn Male provided me the F2 seeds of a cross between a large and very tasty pink beefsteak- Brandywine- and a very early smaller red tomato- Stupice. The original cross was done by Stanley Zubrowski (Saskatchewan) in 1999. I have been growing out this tomato since 2004 outside in my Zone 3a garden, selecting each time for the best combination of earliness and flavour. For the last couple of years it has been coming in a week to 10 days later than Stupice. I have named this tomato in honour of my daughter- Maya and my son- Sion, the city I live in- Airdrie and what I consider to be true Classic tomato taste. Maya and Sion's Airdrie Classic will produce red, oblate fruits with ribbing that weigh between 6 and 14 ozs.(170g-400g) and hang in clusters of 4-8.



Reds



Milka's Red Bulgarian

Midseason Regular Leaf

Bulgarian tomatoes tend to be on the sweet side and this tomato is no exception. I found the sweetness of this tomato to rank right up there with modern day hybrids. Juicy red beefsteak tomatoes are borne in clusters of up to three and weigh between 10-16 oz(280-450g).

Neves Azorean Red



Late Midseason Regular Leaf

Tony Neves and his family immigrated from the Portuguese Azores and settled in the Boston area. The family brought with them their prized family heirloom tomato seeds. Tony traded some of his prized family heirloom tomatoes for fertilizer from the owner of Neptune Fertilizer Company. Dr. Carolyn Male received the seeds from Chuck Perry whose cousin knew people at the fertilizer company. Dr. Male held a naming contest online and Neves Azorean Red won. The taste is something very special, deep and rich, which has made it a mainstay in the gardens of heirloom tomato aficionados around the world. Fruit size is 1 lb. (450 g).



Pasquini's Passion

Midseason Regular Leaf

Pasquini's Passion is another variety sent to me by Glenda Zamzow (AB) who saved a few varieties from her 92 year old Italian gentleman's tomato garden. Pasquini's Passion is an absolute flavour standout- one of my finest tasting beefsteaks- as it possesses such an incredible depth of flavour. Fruit hang on clusters of 4-5 per truss and average around 300+ grams (10.6 oz) with slightly ribbing.



Reds



Red Brandywine

Midseason Regular Leaf

Red Brandywine should be a mainstay in your garden because it is an extremely reliable producer of large, 8-12 oz. (225-340 g), perfect red globe fruits. There is little historical information about Red Brandywine except that it is said to be named after the Brandywine River in eastern Pennsylvania. The taste of this variety is something to be savoured: as the flavour is so deep and rich, with only a hint of sweetness, that it will win you over after your first bite.



Red Penna

Late Midseason Regular Leaf

Large red beefsteak tomatoes hang in clusters of two or three and will usually weigh between 1 and 2 lb. (450-900 g). The flavour of this tomato is quite robust and thus makes it a great choice for a toasted tomato sandwich.





Sophie's Choice

Early Regular Leaf Determinate

Seeds from Sophie's Choice were originally sent from a grower in Edmonton to a friend of Barry Comdon in California, and Dr. Carolyn Male then received these seeds unnamed. Barry's contact named this tomato according to Dr. Male's request. The tomatoes grow to the size of 6-8 oz. and have a refreshing taste to them. It is important to keep this plants' roots quite moist during early growth so as to ensure a healthy harvest.

Reds

Stupice

Early Potato Leaf

This Czechoslovak variety is pronounced as stew-pii-sa. Bred by the Research and Plant Breeding Inst. of Vegetables at Olomouc, Czechoslovakia (now Czech Republic) in the 1950s. Stupice will be one of the first to produce ripe fruits in you garden. The plant stays on the short side (4-5 ft.). I usually just let mine sucker and then cut off the growing tips during the first week of August.





Taupo OP

Midseason Regular Leaf

Taupo (pronounced “TOE-poe”) is a de-hybridized version of one of New Zealand’s favourite hybrid tomatoes. I received the seeds from a grower in New Zealand who de-hybridized this tomato to a near identical form in terms of plant habit, fruit size, colour and taste to the original hybrid. Taupo OP will produce round red tomatoes that weigh 3-6 oz (85- 170 g) that hang in clusters of 5 or more. In 2010, this tomato was the juiciest and sweetest one in my garden. If you are looking for a great medium red tomato then this should be your new standard.







Of course I would go to a restaurant that specialized in tomatoes whilst in Japan. From appetizers, beer, juice, Japanese spirits, appetizers, entrees, to dessert, every single dish contains tomatoes!
Celeb de Tomato = Tomato heaven.



