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Eat your Veggies!!!!!

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Tomato Varieties for Florida

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Variety selections, often made several months before planting, are one of the most important management decisions made by the grower. Failure to select the most suitable variety or varieties may lead to loss of yield or market acceptability.

The following characteristics should be considered in selection of tomato varieties for use in Florida:

- **Yield** - The variety selected should have the potential to produce crops at least equivalent to varieties already grown. The average yield in Florida is currently about 1400 25-pound cartons per acre. The potential yield of varieties in use should be much higher than average.
- **Disease Resistance** - Varieties selected for use in Florida must have resistance to Fusarium wilt, race 1, race 2 and in some areas race 3; Verticillium wilt (race 1); Gray leaf spot; and some tolerance to Bacterial soft rot. Available resistance to other diseases may be important in certain situations, such as Tomato yellow leaf curl in south and central Florida and Tomato spotted wilt and Bacterial wilt resistance in northwest Florida.
- **Horticultural Quality** - Plant habit, stem type and fruit size, shape, color, smoothness and resistance to defects should all be considered in variety selection.
- **Adaptability** - Successful tomato varieties must perform well under the range of environmental conditions usually encountered in the district or on the individual farm.
- **Market Acceptability** - The tomato produced must have characteristics acceptable to the packer, shipper, wholesaler, retailer and consumer. Included among these qualities are pack out, fruit shape, ripening ability, firmness, and flavor.
Current Variety Situation

Many tomato varieties are grown commercially in Florida, but only a few represent most of the acreage. In years past we have been able to give a breakdown of which varieties are used and predominantly where they were being used but this information is no longer available through the USDA Crop Reporting Service.

Tomato Varieties for Commercial Production

The following varieties are currently popular with Florida growers or have done well in university trials. It is by no means a comprehensive list of all varieties that may be adapted to Florida conditions. Growers should try new varieties on a limited basis to see how they perform for them.

Large Fruited Varieties

**Amelia.** Vigorous determinate, main season, jointed hybrid. Fruit are firm and aromatic suitable for green or vine ripe. Good crack resistance. Resistant: Verticillium wilt (race 1), Fusarium wilt (race 1,2,3), root-knot nematode, Gray leaf spot and Tomato spotted wilt. (Harris Moran)

**Bella Rosa.** Heat tolerant determinate type. Produces large to extra-large, firm, uniformly green and shaped fruit. Resistant: Verticillium wilt (race 1), Fusarium wilt (race 1,2), Tomato spotted wilt. (Sakata)

**BHN 586.** Midseason maturity. Fruit are large to extra-large, deep globed shaped with firm, uniform green fruits well suited for mature green or vine-ripe production. Determinate, medium to tall vine. Resistant: Verticillium wilt (race 1), Fusarium wilt (race 1,2) Fusarium crown rot and root-knot nematode. (BHN)

**BHN 602.** Early-midseason maturity. Fruit are globe shape but larger than BHN 640, and green shouldered. Resistant: Verticillium wilt (race 1), Fusarium wilt (race 1,2,3) and Tomato spotted wilt. (BHN)

**BHN 640.** Early-midseason maturity. Fruit are globe shape but tend to slightly elongate, and green shouldered. Resistant: Verticillium wilt (race 1), Fusarium wilt (race 1,2,3) and Tomato spotted wilt. (BHN)

**Crista.** Midseason maturity. Large, deep globe fruit with tall robust plants. Does best with moderate pruning and high fertility. Good flavor, color and shelf-life. Resistant: Verticillium wilt (race 1), Fusarium wilt (race 1,2,3), Tomato spotted wilt and root-knot nematode. (Harris Moran)

**Crown Jewel.** Uniform fruit have a deep oblate shape with good firmness, quality and uniformly-colored shoulders. Determinate with medium-tall bush. Resistant: Verticillium wilt
(race 1), Fusarium wilt (race 1,2) Fusarium crown rot, Alternaria stem canker and Gray leaf spot. (Seminis)

**Fletcher.** Midseason maturity. Large, globe to deep oblate fruit with compact plants. Does best with moderate pruning and high fertility. Good flavor, color and shelf-life. For vine ripe use only due to nipple characteristic on green fruit. Resistant: Verticillium wilt (race 1), Fusarium wilt (race 1,2,3), Tomato spotted wilt and root-knot nematode. **For Trial.**

**Flora-Lee.** It was released for the premium tomato market. A midseason, determinate, jointed hybrid with moderate heat-tolerance. Fruit are uniform green with a high lycopene content and deep red interior color due to the crimson gene. Resistant: Fusarium wilt (race 1,2,3), Verticillium wilt (race 1), and Gray leaf spot. **For Trial.**

**Florida 47.** A late midseason, determinate, jointed hybrid. Uniform green, globe-shaped fruit. Resistant: Fusarium wilt (race 1,2), Verticillium wilt (race 1), Alternaria stem canker, and Gray leaf spot. (Seminis)

**Florida 91.** Uniform green fruit borne on jointed pedicels. Determinate plant. Good fruit setting ability under high temperatures. Resistant: Verticillium wilt (race 1), Fusarium wilt (race 1,2), Alternaria stem canker, and Gray leaf spot. (Seminis)

**HA 3073.** A midseason, determinate, jointed hybrid. Fruit are large, firm, slightly oblate and are uniformly green. Resistant: Resistant: Verticillium wilt (race 1), Fusarium wilt (race 1,2), Gray leaf spot, Tomato yellow leaf curl and Tomato mosaic. (Hazera)

**Linda.** Main season. Large round, smooth, uniform shouldered fruit with excellent firmness and a small blossom end scar. Strong determinate bush with good cover. Resistant: Verticillium wilt (race 1), Fusarium wilt (race 1,2), Alternaria stem canker and Gray leaf spot. (Sakata)

**Phoenix.** Early mid-season. Fruit are large to extra-large, high quality, firm, globe-shaped and are uniformly-colored. “Hot-set” variety. Determinate, vigorous vine with good leaf cover for fruit protection. Resistant: Verticillium wilt (race 1), Fusarium wilt (race 1,2), Alternaria stem canker and Gray leaf spot. (Seminis)

**Quincy.** Full season. Fruit are large to extra-large, excellent quality, firm, deep oblate shape and uniformly colored. Very strong determinate plant. Resistant: Verticillium wilt (race 1), Fusarium wilt (race 1,2), Alternaria stem canker, Tomato spotted wilt and Gray leaf spot. (Seminis)

**RPT 6153.** Main season. Fruit have good eating quality and fancy appearance in a large sturdy shipping tomato and are firm enough for vine-ripe. Large determinate plants. Resistant: Verticillium wilt (race 1), Fusarium wilt (race 1,2) and Gray leaf spot. (Seedway)

**Sanibel.** Main season. Large, firm, smooth fruit with light green shoulder and a tight blossom end. Large determinate bush. Resistant: Verticillium wilt (race 1), Fusarium wilt (race 1,2), root-knot nematodes, Alternaria stem canker and Gray leaf spot. (Seminis)
**Sebring.** A late midseason determinate, jointed hybrid with a smooth, deep oblate, firm, thick walled fruit. Resistant: Verticillium wilt (race 1), Fusarium wilt (race 1,2,3), Fusarium crown rot and Gray leaf spot. (Syngenta)

**Security 28.** An early season determinate variety with a medium vine and good leaf cover adapted to different growing conditions. Produces extra large, round and firm fruit. Resistant: Alternaria stem canker, Fusarium wilt (race 1 and 2), Gray leaf spot, Tomato yellow leaf curl and Verticillium wilt (race 1). (Harris Moran)

**Solar Fire.** An early, determinate, jointed hybrid. Has good fruit setting ability under high temperatures. Fruit are large, flat-round, smooth, firm, light green shoulder and blossom scars are smooth. Resistant: Verticillium wilt (race 1), Fusarium wilt (race 1, 2 and 3) and gray leaf spot. (Harris Moran)

**Solimar.** A midseason hybrid producing globe-shaped, green shouldered fruit. Resistant: Verticillium wilt (race 1), Fusarium wilt (race 1 and 2), Alternaria stem canker, gray leaf spot. (Seminis)

**Soraya.** Full season. Fruit are high quality, smooth and tend toward large to extra-large. Continuous set. Strong, large bush. Resistant: Verticillium wilt (race 1), Fusarium wilt (race 1,2,3), Fusarium crown rot and Gray leaf spot. (Syngenta Rogers Seed)

**Talladega.** Midseason. Fruit are large to extra-large, globe to deep globe shape. Determinate bush. Has some hot-set ability. Performs well with light to moderate pruning. Resistant: Verticillium wilt (race 1), Fusarium wilt (race 1,2), Tomato spotted wilt and Gray leaf spot. (Syngenta Rogers Seed)

**Tygress.** A midseason, jointed hybrid producing large, smooth firm fruit with good packouts. Resistant: Verticillium wilt (race 1), Fusarium wilt (race 1 and 2), gray leaf spot, Tomato mosaic and Tomato yellow leaf curl. (Seminis)

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**Plum Type Varieties**

**BHN 410.** Midseason. Large, smooth, blocky, jointless fruit tolerant to weather cracking. Compact to small bush with concentrated high yield. Resistant: Verticillium wilt (race 1), Fusarium wilt (race 1,2), Bacterial speck (race 0) and Gray leaf spot. (BHN Seed)

**BHN 411.** Midseason. Large, smooth, jointless fruit is tolerant to weather cracks and has reduced tendency for graywall. Compact plant with concentrated fruit set. Resistant: Verticillium wilt (race 1), Fusarium wilt (race 1,2), Bacterial speck (race 0) and Gray leaf spot. (BHN Seed)
**BHN 685.** Midseason. Large to extra-large, deep blocky, globe shaped fruit. Determinate, vigorous bush with no pruning recommended. Resistant: Verticillium wilt (race 1), Fusarium wilt (race 1,2,3) and Tomato spotted wilt. (BHN Seed)

**Mariana.** Midseason. Fruit are predominately extra-large and extremely uniform in shape. Fruit wall is thick and external and internal color is very good with excellent firmness and shelf life. Determinate, small to medium sized plant with good fruit set. Resistant: Verticillium wilt (race 1), Fusarium wilt (race 1,2,3), root-knot nematode, Alternaria stem canker and tolerant to Gray leaf spot. (Sakata)

**Monica.** Midseason. Fruit are elongated, firm, extra-large and uniform green color. Vigorous bush with good cover. Resistant: Verticillium wilt (race 1), Fusarium wilt (race 1,2), Bacterial speck (race 0) and Gray leaf spot. (Sakata)

**Plum Dandy.** Medium to large determinate plants. Rectangular, blocky, defect-free fruit for fresh-market production. When grown in hot, wet conditions, it does not set fruit well and is susceptible to bacterial spot. For winter and spring production in Florida. Resistant: Verticillium wilt, Fusarium wilt (race 1), Early blight, and rain checking. (Harris Moran)

**Sunoma.** Main season. Fruit are medium-large, elongated and cylindrical. Plant maintains fruit size through multiple harvests. Determinate plant with good fruit cover. Resistant: Verticillium wilt (race 1), Fusarium wilt (race 1,2), Bacterial speck (race 0), root-knot nematodes, Tomato mosaic and Gray leaf spot. (Seminis)

**Cherry Type Varieties**

**BHN 268.** Early. An extra firm cherry tomato that holds, packs and ships well. Determinate, small to medium bush with high yields. Resistant: Verticillium wilt (race 1), Fusarium wilt (race 1). (BHN Seed)

**Camelia.** Midseason. Deep globe, cocktail-cherry size with excellent firmness and long shelf life. Indeterminate bush. Outdoor or greenhouse production. Verticillium wilt (race 1), Fusarium wilt (race 1) and Tobacco mosaic. (Siegers Seed)

**Cherry Blossom.** 70 days. Large cherry, holds and yields well. Determinate bush. Resistant: Verticillium wilt (race 1), Fusarium wilt (race 1,2), Bacterial speck (race 0), root-knot nematodes, Alternaria stem canker and Gray leaf spot. (Seedway)

**Mountain Belle.** Vigorous, determinate type plants. Fruit are round to slightly ovate with uniform green shoulders borne on jointless pedicels. Resistant: Fusarium wilt (race 2), Verticillium wilt (race 1). (Syngenta Rogers Seed)

**Super Sweet 100 VF.** Produces large clusters of round uniform fruit with high sugar levels. Fruit somewhat small and may crack during rainy weather. Indeterminate vine with high yield.
potential. Resistant: Verticillium wilt (race 1) and Fusarium wilt (race 1). (Siegers Seed, Seedway)

**Shiren.** Compact plant with high yield potential and nice cluster. Resistant: Fusarium wilt (race 1,2), root-knot nematodes and Tomato mosaic. (Hazera)

**Grape Tomatoes**

**Brixmore.** Very early. Indeterminate. Very uniform in shape and size, deep glossy red color with very high early and total yield. High brix and excellent firm flavor. Resistant: Verticillium wilt (race 1), root-knot nematodes and Tomato mosaic. ((Harris Moran)

**Cupid.** Early. Vigorous, indeterminate bush. Oval-shaped fruit have an excellent red color and a sweet flavor. Resistant: Fusarium wilt (race 1,2), Bacterial speck (intermediate resistance race 0) and Gray leaf spot. (Seminis)

**Jolly Elf.** Early season. Determinate plant. Extended market life with firm, flavorful grape-shaped fruits. Average 10% brix. Resistant: Verticillium wilt (race 1), Fusarium wilt (race 2) and cracking. (Siegers Seed, Seedway)

**Santa.** 75 days. Vigorous indeterminate bush. Firm elongated grape-shaped fruit with outstanding flavor and up to 50 fruits per truss. Resistant: Verticillium wilt (race 1), Fusarium wilt (race 1), root-knot nematodes and Tobacco mosaic. (Thompson and Morgan)

**St Nick.** Mid-early season. Indeterminate bush. Oblong, grape-shaped fruit with brilliant red color and good flavor. Up to 10% brix. (Siegers Seed)

**Smarty.** 69 days. Vigorous, indeterminate bush with short internodes. Plants are 25% shorter than Santa. Good flavor, sweet and excellent flavor. (Seedway)