

2003 TOMATO CULTIVAR TRIAL FOR SOUTHERN ILLINOIS

Bronwyn Aly

Dixon Springs Agricultural Center, University of Illinois, Simpson

A tomato cultivar trial was conducted at the Dixon Springs Agricultural Center located in Pope County. Transplants used in the study were grown at DSAC and field set on May 16, 2003. The plants were grown on fumigated, raised beds with black plastic mulch and trickle irrigation. Plants were set 30 inches apart in rows with 5.5 foot bed spacing. They were grown using a trellis weave and pruned to below first cluster. All plots were replicated three times. Pest control practices followed recommendations given in the *Midwest Vegetable Production Guide, 2003*.

The plots were harvested twice a week for the period of July 7 to August 27. Early yields are for the period July 7 to July 22 and midseason yields for the period July 28 to August 11. The results of the trial are given in Table 1. Cultivars are listed in descending order of total pounds of U.S. No. 1 fruit harvested.

Table 1. Results of 2003 DSAC tomato variety trial.

Cultivar	Source	Early	Midseason	Total #1	Total Yield	Size	Culls
		7/7-7/22	7/28-8/11	7/7-8/27	7/7-8/27		
U.S. No. 1							
(-----pounds per plant-----) (oz) (no.)							
Carolina Gold*	RG	0.3	4.8	12.7	16.8	12.2	9.1
NC 0236	NC	0.2	6.0	11.2	15.5	11.8	7.3
Florida 47	SW	0.5	5.4	10.7	14.9	11.5	7.3
NC 00238	NC	0.3	5.3	10.4	15.2	10.9	5.9
Amelia	SW	0.3	6.3	10.2	16.3	11.1	7.1
NC 00239	NC	0.6	6.0	10.2	15.1	10.1	6.6
Sunguard	SW	0.5	6.3	10.1	13.8	11.0	7.7
NC 0256	NC	0.3	5.3	10.1	12.7	11.7	5.5
NC 02226	NC	0.3	6.1	10.0	14.7	11.0	11.4
Fabulous	SW	0.3	7.2	10.0	13.9	12.8	10.1
NC 0227	NC	0.0	4.5	9.9	14.6	11.6	8.7
Sebring	RG	0.2	6.2	9.6	13.0	10.7	11.0
NC 0258	NC	0.4	6.9	9.5	15.0	10.3	8.9
Mt. Spring	SW	0.3	5.0	9.2	13.9	11.4	8.1
Sun Leaper	RG	0.3	5.5	9.1	16.5	12.5	17.1
Floralina	SW	0.3	4.5	9.1	12.9	10.7	5.0
Mt. Crest	NC	0.1	5.5	8.9	14.6	11.2	7.2
Sunbeam	SW	0.4	6.7	8.5	14.1	11.5	9.3
Sunbrite	SW	0.3	7.2	8.5	12.6	12.5	6.1
BHN 591	SW	0.5	3.8	8.1	13.2	10.6	10.2
BHN 543	SW	0.3	4.0	7.8	11.3	11.5	13.0
RFT 6153	RG	0.4	3.5	7.5	10.8	11.0	7.2
Sunchief	SW	0.6	4.6	7.1	9.8	11.6	7.6
Sunshine	SW	0.7	2.0	3.0	6.8	9.7	17.3
PLUM TYPE**							
Plum Crimson	NC	1.4	8.6	18.6		3.4	2.9
Health Kick	SW	0.4	4.2	16.4		2.2	2.2

* Yellow tomato

** Only replicated two times