

2007 Tomato Cultivar Trial for Southern Illinois

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A tomato cultivar trial was conducted at the Dixon Springs Agricultural Center (DSAC) located in Pope County, Illinois. Transplants used in the study were grown at DSAC and field set on May 17, 2007. The plants were grown on raised beds with black plastic mulch and trickle irrigation. Plants were set 24 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, 2007*.

The plots were harvested twice a week for the period of July 16 to August 30. Cultivars are listed in descending order of total pounds of U.S. No. 1 fruit harvested. We wish to thank the seed companies for their contribution in this trial.

Table 1. Results of 2007 DSAC tomato variety trial.

Cultivar	Source	Early 7/16-7/20	Midseason 7/24-7/31	Total #1 7/16-8/30	Total Mktbl. Yield 7/16-8/30	Size (oz)	Culls (no.)
		U.S. No. 1 pounds per plant					
NC 0377	NC	1.6	5.7	15.0	18.0	10.7	4.8
NC 05137	NC	1.6	4.5	12.7	16.1	9.9	12.0
Crista	SW	2.5	4.2	12.2	15.9	10.6	11.3
NC 0392	NC	2.4	5.5	11.2	13.6	10.5	7.5
Fabulous	SW	1.3	3.9	10.5	12.7	10.2	10.7
Big Beef	SW	1.3	4.1	10.2	15.0	9.2	10.2
NC 0718	SW	2.5	4.1	9.7	12.1	10.6	8.8
Florida 47	SW	1.3	4.3	9.2	17.8	10.7	6.9
BHN 589	SW	2.1	4.1	9.2	11.9	11.2	8.9
Pink Girl	SW	0.6	1.6	6.3	9.5	10.3	14.1
Tough Boy	SW	0.1	0.2	2.4	7.4	8.0	36.4
NC 05255 *	NC	0.3	3.0	13.5	13.5	4.4	
NC 05114*	NC	2.1	2.9	13.4	13.4	1.6	
Smarty*	NC	1.6	2.0	11.0	0.4		

* Specialty tomato.