

Evaluation of Fresh Market Tomato Cultivars for Southern Ohio, 2007

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This trial evaluated 10 fresh market tomato cultivars for their suitability in southern Ohio.

Methods

Seeds were planted April 16 in the greenhouse. Transplants were transplanted to the field on May 31 using a waterwheel transplanter onto raised beds covered with black plastic mulch with trickle irrigation. Plots rows were 6 feet apart. The experimental design was a randomized complete block with three replications. One hundred units of N, P, and K were applied before forming beds and laying plastic mulch. A standard commercial fungicide and insecticide program was followed, following OSU Bulletin #672.

Results

‘Townsville’ and ‘BHN LD709’ were not statistically different from each other and produced 58,887 and 48,667 pounds of small fruit per acre. ‘Crista’ produced the fewest pounds of small fruit per acre (18,749).

There was no effect of variety on production of pounds of medium fruit per acre.

‘BHN 591,’ ‘Mt Fresh Plus,’ and ‘Talladega’ produced the most total pounds of large fruit per acre and were not different from each other (17,301-18,702 pounds). ‘Townsville’ and ‘Polset’ produced the fewest pounds of large fruit per acre (1,045-3,493 pounds.)

‘Townsville,’ ‘BHN LD709,’ and ‘BHN 591’ produced the greatest total pounds per acre (81,494, 76,826, and 73,108 respectively) and were statistically different from ‘Crista’ and ‘Polset,’ which produced the fewest total pounds per acre (49,606 and 46,806 respectively). ‘Crista’ and ‘Polset’ were not different from each other. The other varieties produced between 60,138 and 70,660 pounds per acre. Total pounds per acre LSD was 21,554 pounds.

There was a highly significant effect of variety on average weight. ‘Crista’ had the highest average weight (0.67 pound) but was not significantly different from ‘Mt Fresh Plus,’ ‘Talladega,’ or ‘BHN 591.’ ‘TUN 3004974’ was just slightly less (0.62 pound). ‘BHN LD709’ was intermediate with an average weight of 0.56 pound. ‘Townsville’ and ‘Polset’ had the lowest average weight of 0.43 and 0.39 pound, respectively. The LSD was 0.05 pound.

Tomato Cultivars in 2007 Trial

1. BSS 486
2. TUN 3004974
3. Townsville
4. Tónico
5. BHN LD709
6. Polset
7. BHN 591
8. Mt Fresh Plus
9. Talladega
10. Crista