

2002 TOMATO CULTIVAR TRIAL FOR SOUTHERN ILLINOIS

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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 29, 2002. The plants were grown on 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, 2002*.

The plots were harvested twice a week for the period of July 15 to September 3. Early yields are for the period July 15 to August 2 and midseason yields for the period August 5 to August 15. 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 2002 DSAC tomato variety trial.

Cultivar	Source	<u>Early</u> 7/15-8/2	<u>Midseason</u> 8/5-8/15	<u>Total #1</u> 7/15-9/3	<u>Total Yield</u> 7/15-9/3	Size	Culls
U.S. No. 1							
(-----pounds per plant-----) (oz) (no.)							
Plum Crimson*	NC	0.6	3.2	7.6	8.1	3.8	6.8
Sun Leaper	RG	0.3	2.9	6.3	10.3	9.8	6.3
Fabulous	SW	1.0	3.7	6.0	9.3	11.0	7.6
NC 00238	NC	0.4	2.2	5.6	8.1	9.6	5.0
BHN 543	SW	0.7	2.4	5.4	8.3	10.2	9.2
Floralina	SW	0.5	2.7	5.3	8.5	9.4	4.7
BHN 444	SW	0.1	2.4	5.0	7.9	10.4	8.5
BHN 189	SW	0.5	1.9	4.9	8.3	9.8	9.4
NC 00243	NC	0.4	3.0	4.8	7.1	9.1	4.9
Mountain Crest	NC	0.4	2.4	4.6	8.4	9.1	4.3
NC 96365	NC	0.3	2.6	4.5	8.3	9.0	5.5
RFT 6153	RG	0.5	2.1	3.9	6.8	10.2	4.7
NC 00239	NC	0.3	2.5	3.6	6.0	9.8	5.2
NC 0016	NC	0.5	1.6	3.3	5.6	9.1	4.8
Sunchief	SW	1.0	2.1	3.3	5.0	10.0	7.1
BHN 555	SW	0.1	2.0	3.2	5.9	9.7	8.2
RFT 0247	RG	0.2	1.0	2.4	4.1	9.8	6.4
Sunshine	SW	0.7	1.5	2.2	4.5	8.8	5.8
Mt. Spring	RG	0.1	0.8	2.0	4.0	10.0	5.3

* Plum type tomato, only replicated twice.