

Tomato Varieties for Florida - Florida “Red Rounds,” Plum, Cherries, and Grapes¹

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Tomatoes were introduced to European culture more than a hundred years before Linnaeus developed the binomial system of naming plants. He published his scheme in *Species plantarum* in 1753 at a time when people struggled to find descriptive means to identify plants and other organisms. Before Linnaeus, plants were described by many methods, and the different naming systems caused much confusion.

The naming of tomato by Europeans began with attempts such as *Poma amoris fructu rubro*, or more colloquially, "pomme d'Amour." In 1694, Tournefort was first to name the tomato as a *Lycopersicon*, which means "wolf peach" in Greek. Linnaeus, however, placed the cultivated tomato in the genus *Solanum* and named it *Solanum lycopersicum*. Soon after, Miller created the genus *Lycopersicon* and proceeded to name the tomato *Lycopersicon esculentum*.

After his death, an editor of Miller's work placed tomato back in the genus *Solanum*. Later botanists, trained in classical techniques of classification, returned the tomato to the genus *Lycopersicon* after reviewing Miller's original work. It is not surprising that the confusion that began centuries ago about the naming of the tomato remains to the present day.

Current phylogenetic techniques have shown the tomato to be situated firmly within the genus *Solanum*. After years of horticulturists' preference for the name and authority *Lycopersicon esculentum* Miller, there are those now promoting—with strong molecular DNA evidence—the return to Linnaeus' original classification, *Solanum lycopersicum* L. For a thorough and easily readable presentation on this topic, see the feature article in the recent *Report of the Tomato Genetics Cooperative* by Peralta, Knapp, and Spooner (2006). Suggested changes also include several species closely related to cultivated tomato. Once again, the evidence about tomato appears to favor those with a preference for the genus *Solanum*.

Can it be said that *Solanum lycopersicum* is now the official name of tomato? Perhaps not. It often takes years for a suggested name change to be accepted by the communities most closely associated with the species in question. In time, if the evidence is considered adequate, the name change will be accepted and reported as *S. lycopersicum* L. (syn. *L. esculentum* Mill.). This process occurs with many plant species; for example, the medicinal plant black cohosh is currently reported as *Actaea racemosa* L. (syn. *Cimicifuga racemosa* [L.] Nutt).

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A Word about Varieties

The term *cultivar* is a botanical term that is a contraction of the two-word term *cultivated variety* and is analogous to what growers call a *variety*. In botanical nomenclature, the term *variety* describes a subgroup that represents variations observed within a species. Cultivars are grouped within botanical varieties.

What are tomato varieties in botanical terms? Large, round tomatoes are var. *lycopersicum*. Thus, the full name of tomato is reported as *S. lycopersicum* L. var. *lycopersicum*. It is generally understood that "red rounds" are var. *lycopersicum*. Because of this assumption, the variety is not usually listed along with the scientific name. Cherry and grape tomatoes are var. *cerasiforme* (grapes are elongated cherries), and plum tomatoes are var. *pyriforme*.

Varieties for Florida: Florida "red rounds," cherries, grapes, and plums

The tables below serve as a guide to varieties used in Florida, separated by regional adaptation. South Florida includes Fort Myers, Palm Beach, and all areas to the south of those cities. Central Florida includes the area between Gainesville and Fort Myers. North Florida includes Gainesville and all areas to the north of Gainesville.

Disease Key

SUS – Susceptible

R – Resistant

IR – Intermediate Resistance

T – Tolerant

ASC – Alternaria stem canker - *Alternaria alternata* f.sp. *lycopersici*

BS - Bacterial spot - *Xanthomonas* spp. (*X. vesicatoria*, *X. euvesicatoria*, *X. Perforans*, and *X. gardneri*)

BSK – Bacterial speck - *Pseudomonas syringae* pv *tomato*

C – Cracking

CLS - Cladosporium leaf mold - *Cladosporium fulvum*

F-R 1, 2, 3 - Fusarium wilt race 1, 2, 3 - *Fusarium oxysporum* f.sp. *lycopersici* races 1, 2, 3

FCR – Fusarium crown rot - *Fusarium oxysporum* f.sp. *radicis-lycopersici*

N – Root knot nematode - *Meloidogyne arenaria*, *M. Incognita*, and *M. javanica*

S – Gray leaf spot - *Sylium solani*

TM – Tobacco mosaic

ToM - Tomato mosaic

TSW – Tomato spotted wilt

TYLC – Tomato yellow leaf curl

V (1) - Verticillium wilt - *Verticillium albo-atrom* and *Verticillium dahliae* race 1

References

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Table 1. Tomato varieties in South Florida

| Variety | Company | Season | Characteristics of plant and fruit | Resistance ¹ | Comments |
|---------------------|-----------------|---|--|--|--|
| Round tomato | | | | | |
| 'BHN 585' | BHN Seed | Midseason | Determinate medium vine. Large to extra large, deep, globe-shaped fruit | R to FCR, F-R (1, 2), N, and V (1). | Well suited for mature green or vine-ripe production. |
| 'Charger' | Sakata | Early in the main season, fall, late in the main season | Determinate plant. Vigorous plant with good vine cover. Large to very large, smooth, deep oblate fruit with excellent firmness, red color, and good flavor. Early maturity. | R to ASC, F-R (1, 2, 3), TYLC, and V (1). | Adapted for mature-green and vine-ripe markets. Well suited for fall production slot. |
| 'Crown Jewel' | Seminis | Late midseason | Determinate plant. Medium to tall bush. Uniform fruit have a deep oblate shape and good firmness. Fruit have good quality with uniformly colored shoulders and jointed pedicels. | R to ASC, FCR, F-R (1, 2), S, and V (1). T to gray wall. | Well adapted for late fall and winter production slot. |
| 'FL 47' | Seminis | Midseason | Determinate plant. Medium-sized bush. Very large, deep oblate, firm, smooth fruit. | R to ASC, F-R (1, 2), S, and V (1). | Uniform green fruit are adaptable to both mature-green and vine-ripe harvest. |
| 'FL 91' | Seminis | Midseason | Determinate plant. Strong vine. Large, deep oblate, firm fruit with uniform green shoulders. | R to ASC, F-R (1, 2), S, and V (1). | Heavy early yield with high pack-out and heat-set capabilities. |
| 'Phoenix' | Seminis | Early midseason | Determinate plant. Vigorous vine with good leaf cover for fruit protection. Large to extra large, firm, globe-shaped fruit. Fruit have uniformly colored shoulders and jointed pedicels. | R to ASC, F-R (1, 2), S, and V (1). | Heat-set capabilities. High-quality fruit. |
| 'Rocky Top' | Syngenta/Rogers | Midseason | Tall, determinant plant. Mostly extra large and large. Firm fruit and great eating quality. | R to F-R (1, 2, 3), S, and V (1). | Well adapted for vine-ripe production as well as greenhouse/high tunnel-production conditions. |

Table 1. Tomato varieties in South Florida

| Variety | Company | Season | Characteristics of plant and fruit | Resistance ¹ | Comments |
|--------------------|---------------------|---|---|--|--|
| 'Sebring' | Syngenta/ Rogers | Main season | Determinate plant. Medium to tall bush. Extra large to large, smooth, deep oblate fruit. Fruit have uniform green shoulders and tight blossom ends. Low incidence of gray wall. | R to FCR, F-R (1, 2, 3), S, and V (1). | Very popular variety in South Florida for FCR. |
| 'Security 28' | Harris Moran | Early in the main season, fall, late in the main season, spring | Medium vine with good leaf cover. Extra large, round, firm, dark-red fruit. | R to ASC, F-R (1, 2), S, TYLC, and V (1). | Vine-ripe or organic production only. |
| 'Soraya' | Syngenta/ Rogers | 80 days | Determinate bush. Very smooth, extra large and large fruit. | R to FCR, F-R (1, 2, 3), S, and V (1). | High-quality fruit. |
| 'Tygress' | Seminis | Main season | Determinate vigorous plant. Deep oblate, smooth, uniform fruit. | R to ASC, F-R (1, 2), S, ToM, TYLC, and V (1). | High-quality fruit. |
| 'Sanibel' | Seminis | Main season | Determinate plant. Large, firm, smooth fruit with light-green shoulders and a tight blossom-end scar. | R to ASC, F-R (1, 2), N, S, and V (1). | Well adapted for SE Florida. High yield potential, jointless pedicels. |
| 'HM 8849CR' | Harris Moran | Main season | Early maturing variety with a strong plant and good leaf cover. Extra large, smooth, slightly flattened, globe-shaped fruit. | R to F-R (1, 2), FCR, S, and V (1). | Produced high yield in spring 2010 trial. |
| Plum tomato | | | | | |
| 'BHN 685' | BHN Seed | Midseason | Determinate plant. Vigorous bush. Large to extra large, deep, blocky, globe-shaped fruit. | R to F-R (1, 2, 3), TSW, and V (1). | Strong plant in poor soils. |
| 'Mariana' | Sakata | Midseason | Determinate compact plant. Classic saladette shape, predominately extra large and highly uniform. Fruit wall is thick. External and internal fruit color are very good with excellent firmness. | R to ASC, F-R (1, 2), N, and V (1). IR to S. | Exceptional fruit set; excellent uniformity and shelf life. |

Table 1. Tomato varieties in South Florida

| Variety | Company | Season | Characteristics of plant and fruit | Resistance ¹ | Comments |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|--|---|--|
| 'Monica' | Sakata | Midseason | Vigorous bush with good cover. Firm, extra large, elongated fruit. Fruit have uniform green color and jointed pedicels. | R to ASC, BSK, F-R (1, 2), S, and V (1). | High fruit yield. Excellent red color and flavor. |
| 'Sunoma' | Seminis | Main season | Determinate plant. Good fruit cover. Medium-large, elongated, cylindrical fruit. | R to BSK, F-R (1, 2), N, S, ToM, and V (1). | Widely adapted and maintains fruit size through multiple harvests. |
| Grape tomato | | | | | |
| 'Jolly Elf' | Sg, ² Seedway | Early season | Determinate plant. Fruit are firm, flavorful, and grape shaped. | R to C, F-R (2), and V (1). | Extended market life and average 10% brix. |
| 'BHN 785' | BHN Seed | Midseason | Determinate hybrid plant. Vigorous bush with good cover. Strong set of fruit with uniform size and shape. | R to F-R (1). | Very uniform size and shape. |
| 'Santa' | Available only by contract | 75 days | Determinate plant. Vigorous bush. Firm, elongated, grape-shaped fruit. | R to F-R (1, 2, 3), N, TM, and V (1). | Outstanding in flavor and up to 50 fruit per truss. |
| 'Sweet Hearts' | Sakata | Early to midseason | Indeterminate plant. Well suited for both indoor and outdoor production. Continuous sets and full clusters to the top of the plant; high yield potential. Uniform fruit with brilliant red color and excellent flavor. | R to C, CLS, F-R (1), and ToM. | Excellent flavor, high brix, and excellent shelf life. |
| Cherry tomato | | | | | |
| 'BHN 268' | BHN Seed | Early to midseason | Determinate tall bush with high yields. | R to F-R (1) and V (1). | Very good shelf life. |
| 'Camelia' | Hazera | Midseason | Indeterminate bush. Deep globe, cocktail-cherry-sized fruit with excellent firmness. | R to F-R (1), TM, and V (1). | Outdoor or greenhouse production and long shelf life. |
| 'Shiren' | Hazera | Midseason | Compact plant with nice cluster. | R to F-R (1, 2), N, and ToM. | High yield potential. |
| Heirloom tomato³ | | | | | |
| 'Pruden's Purple' | JS, TG ² | 67 days | Indeterminate plant. Pink-red fruit, similar to 'Brandywine'. Early maturity. | SUS to BS, FCR, and TYLC. | More heat-set capabilities than most heirlooms. |

Table 1. Tomato varieties in South Florida

| Variety | Company | Season | Characteristics of plant and fruit | Resistance ¹ | Comments |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|------------|--|--------------------------------------|--|
| 'Cherokee Purple' | JS, Sg, SE, TG ² | 80 days | Indeterminate plant. A purple/black with green shoulders. Fruit not as large as some other heirlooms, but plants are often more productive. | SUS to BS and TYLC. | Excellent sweet flavor. |
| 'Striped German' | JS, Sg ² | 78 days | Indeterminate plant. Large yellow fruit with red streaks. | SUS to BS, gray wall, FCR, and TYLC. | Not as productive as 'Pruden's Purple' (in South Florida), but striking color. |
| 'Brandywine' | JS, TG, Sg, SE ² | 78 days | Indeterminate plant. A large, pink fruit. Also comes in yellow and red. The yellow often get gray wall. | SUS to BS, FCR, and TYLC. | May be the most well-known heirloom tomato. |
| '(Jaune) Flamme' | TG ² | 70 days | Indeterminate plant. A very small orange tomato (probably about 6 x 7 tomato size); very soft and fragile when ripe. | SUS to BS, FCR, and TYLC. | One of the best-tasting heirloom tomatoes. |
| 'Green Zebra' | JS, SE ² | 75 days | Indeterminate plant. Small, firm fruit with light-green and dark-green stripes. Ripens to yellow stripes. | SUS to BS, FCR, and TYLC. | Tart flavor, but excellent color contrast for heirloom mixes. |
| 'Amana Orange' | TG, Sg ² | 85-90 days | Indeterminate plant. Large, orange fruit; relatively smooth for an heirloom. | SUS to BS, FCR, and TYLC. | Excellent sweet, almost tropical fruit flavors. |
| 'Big Zebra' | TG ² | 85 days | Indeterminate plant. Red-and-green striped with some yellow as it ripens. Larger than 'Green Zebra'; more like an irregular 4 x 5 tomato size. | SUS to BS, FCR, and TYLC. | One of the most unusual tomatoes you have ever seen. |

Note: Other heirloom varieties with heat tolerance that may be adapted to Florida include 'Homestead', 'Super Sioux', 'Porter', 'Old Virginia', 'Arkansas Traveler', 'Nebraska', 'Wedding', 'Nepal', 'Eva Purple Ball', 'Amana Orange', 'Boondocks', 'Brandywine Pink', 'Fireworks', 'Goose Creek', 'Sun Master', and the plum variety, 'Costoluto Genevese'. None of the heirloom varieties available have any resistance to TSW.

While this list includes a number of varieties currently popular with Florida growers, it is by no means a comprehensive list of all varieties that may be adapted to the state.

¹ See "Disease Key" below for disease abbreviations.

² JS = Johnny's Selected Seeds, SE = Southern Exposure Seed Exchange, Sg = Siegers Seed Company, TG = Tomato Growers Supply. Since these are open-pollinated varieties, many are also available from other companies or individuals. Some have developed their own strains of a certain variety.

³ Most heirlooms, especially the larger-fruited varieties, are extremely susceptible to cracking. Most growers will find it best not to water or fertilize heavily when there is fruit on the plants

Table 2. Tomato varieties in Central Florida

| Variety | Company | Season | Characteristics of plant and fruit | Resistance ¹ | Comments |
|---------------------|---------------------|---|---|--|--|
| Round tomato | | | | | |
| 'BHN 585' | BHN Seed | Midseason | Determinate medium vine. Large to extra large, deep, globe-shaped fruit. | R to FCR, F-R (1, 2), N, and V (1). | Well suited for mature-green or vine-ripe production. |
| 'BHN 602' | BHN Seed | Early to midseason | Determinate medium plant with a concentrated set. Large, firm, globe-shaped fruit with uniform green shoulders. | R to F-R (1, 2, 3), TSW, and V (1). | Light to no pruning. |
| 'Charger' | Sakata | Early in the main season, fall, late in the main season | Determinate plant. Vigorous plant with good vine cover. Large to very large, smooth, deep oblate fruit with excellent firmness, red color, and good flavor. Early maturity. | R to ASC, F-R (1, 2, 3), TYLC, and V (1). | Adapted for mature-green and vine-ripe markets. Well suited for fall production slot. |
| 'Crown Jewel' | Seminis | Late midseason | Determinate plant. Medium to tall bush. Uniform fruit have a deep oblate shape and good firmness. Fruit have good quality with uniformly colored shoulders and jointed pedicels. | R to ASC, FCR, F-R (1, 2), S, and V (1). T to gray wall. | Well adapted for late fall and winter production slot. |
| 'FL 47' | Seminis | Midseason | Determinate plant. Medium-sized bush. Very large, deep oblate, firm, smooth fruit. | R to ASC, F-R (1, 2), S, and V (1). | Uniform green fruit are adaptable to both mature-green and vine-ripe harvest. |
| 'FL 91' | Seminis | Midseason | Determinate plant. Strong vine. Large, deep oblate, firm fruit with uniform green shoulders. | R to ASC, F-R (1, 2), S, and V (1). | Heavy early yield with high pack-out and heat-set capabilities. |
| 'Phoenix' | Seminis | Early midseason | Determinate plant. Vigorous vine with good leaf cover for fruit protection. Large to extra large, firm, globe-shaped fruit with uniformly colored shoulders and jointed pedicels. | R to ASC, F-R (1, 2), S, and V (1). | Heat-set capabilities. High-quality fruit. |
| 'Rocky Top' | Syngenta/ Rogers | Midseason | Tall, determinate plant. Mostly extra large and large. Firm fruit and great eating quality. | R to F-R (1, 2, 3), S, and V (1). | Well adapted for vine-ripe production as well as greenhouse/high tunnel-production conditions. |

Table 2. Tomato varieties in Central Florida

| Variety | Company | Season | Characteristics of plant and fruit | Resistance ¹ | Comments |
|---------------------|---------------------------|---|--|---|--|
| 'Sebring' | Syngenta/ Rogers | Main Season | Determinate plant. Medium to tall bush. Extra large to large, smooth, deep oblate fruit with uniform green shoulders and tight blossom ends. Low incidence of gray wall. | R to FCR, F-R (1, 2, 3), S, and V (1). | Very popular variety in South Florida for FCR. |
| 'Security 28' | Harris Moran | Early in the main season, fall, late in the main season, spring | Medium vine with good leaf cover. Extra large, round, firm, dark-red fruit. | R to ASC, FCR, F-R (1, 2), S, TYLC, and V (1). | Vine ripe or organic production only. |
| 'Soraya' | Syngenta/ Rogers | 80 days | Strong, large bush. Very smooth large and extra large fruit. | R to FCR, F-R (1, 2, 3), S, and V (1). | High-quality fruit. |
| 'Tygress' | Seminis | Main season | Determinate vigorous plant. Deep oblate, smooth, uniform fruit. | R to ASC, F-R (1, 2), S, ToM, TYLC, and V (1). | High-quality fruit. |
| Plum tomato | | | | | |
| 'BHN 685' | BHN Seed | Midseason | Determinate plant. Vigorous bush. Large to extra large, deep, blocky, globe-shaped fruit. | R to F-R (1, 2, 3), TSW, and V (1). | Strong plant in poor soils. |
| 'Mariana' | Sakata | Midseason | Determinate compact plant. Classic saladette shape, predominately extra large and highly uniform. Fruit wall is thick. The external and internal fruit color is very good with excellent firmness. | R to ASC, F-R (1, 2), N, and V (1). IR to S. | Exceptional fruit set; excellent uniformity and shelf life. |
| 'Monica' | Sakata | Midseason | Vigorous bush with good cover. Firm, extra large, elongated fruit. Fruit have uniform green color and jointed pedicles. | R to ASC, BSK, F-R (1, 2), S, and V (1). | High fruit yield. Excellent red color and flavor. |
| 'Sunoma' | Seminis | Main season | Determinate plant. Good fruit cover. Medium-large, elongated, cylindrical fruit. | R to BSK, F-R (1, 2), N, S, ToM, and V (1). | Widely adapted and maintains fruit size through multiple harvests. |
| Grape tomato | | | | | |
| 'Jolly Elf' | Sg ² , Seedway | Early season | Determinate plant. Fruit are firm, flavorful, and grape shaped. | R to C, F-R (2), and V (1). | Extended market life and average 10% brix. |

Table 2. Tomato varieties in Central Florida

| Variety | Company | Season | Characteristics of plant and fruit | Resistance ¹ | Comments |
|----------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| 'BHN 785' | BHN Seed | Midseason | Determinate hybrid plant. Vigorous bush with good cover. Strong set of fruit with uniform size and shape. | R to F-R (1) | Very uniform size and shape. |
| 'Santa' | Available only by contract | 75 days | Determinate plant. Vigorous bush. Firm, elongated, grape-shaped fruit. | R to F-R (1, 2, 3), N, TM, and V (1). | Outstanding in flavor and up to 50 fruit per truss. |
| 'Sweet Hearts' | Sakata | Early and midseason | Indeterminate plant. Well suited for both indoor and outdoor production. Continuous sets and full clusters to the top of the plant; high yield potential. Uniform fruit with brilliant red color and excellent flavor. | R to C, CLS, F-R (1), and ToM. | Excellent flavor, high brix, and excellent shelf life. |
| Cherry tomato | | | | | |
| 'BHN 268' | BHN Seed | Early to midseason | Determinate tall bush with high yields. | R to F-R (1) and V (1). | Very good shelf life. |
| 'Camelia' | Hazera | Midseason | Indeterminate bush. Deep globe, cocktail-cherry-sized fruit with excellent firmness. | R to F-R (1), TM, and V (1). | Outdoor or greenhouse production and long shelf life. |
| 'Shiren' | Hazera | Midseason | Compact plant with nice cluster. | R to F-R (1, 2), N, and ToM. | High yield potential. |

Note: While this list includes a number of varieties currently popular with Florida growers, it is by no means a comprehensive list of all varieties that may be adapted to the state.

¹ See "Disease Key" below for disease abbreviations.

² Sg = Siegers Seed Company. Since these are open-pollinated varieties, many are also available from other companies or individuals. Some have developed their own strains of a certain variety.

Table 3. Tomato varieties in North Florida

| Variety | Company | Season | Characteristics of plant and fruit | Resistance ¹ | Comments |
|---------------------|--------------|-------------|--|--|---|
| Round tomato | | | | | |
| 'Amelia' | Harris Moran | Main season | Determinate plant. Vigorous with an excellent leaf canopy. Firm, aromatic fruit. | R to F-R (1, 2, 3), N, V (1). IR to S and TSW. | Ideal for green and vine-ripe harvest. Crack-tolerant skin. |

Table 3. Tomato varieties in North Florida

| Variety | Company | Season | Characteristics of plant and fruit | Resistance ¹ | Comments |
|----------------|--------------|-------------------------|---|--|---|
| 'Bella Rosa' | Sakata | Early main season, fall | Determinate medium-sized plant with good cover. Concentrated set. Large, smooth, deep oblate, firm fruit with good color and flavor. Mid to early maturity and good heat tolerance. | R to ASC, F-R (1, 2), and V(1). IR to S and TSW. | Adapted for mature-green and vine-ripe markets. |
| 'BHN 602' | BHN Seed | Early to midseason | Determinate medium plant with a concentrated set. Large, firm, globe-shaped fruit with uniform green shoulders. | R to F-R (1, 2, 3), TSW, and V (1). | Light to no pruning. |
| 'BHN 871' | BHN Seed | Midseason | Strong, tall to medium bush. Firm gold- to tangerine-colored globe-shaped fruit. | R to F-R (1, 2, 3) and V (1). T to FCR. | Gold color with very good taste and texture. |
| 'Fletcher' | Seedway | Midseason | High yields of firm and very smooth fruit. | R to F-R (1, 2), N, V (1), and TSW. | Good shelf life and color. Use only for vine-ripe production. |
| 'Crista' | Harris Moran | Midseason | Tall, robust plant. Large fruit with a deep globe shape. | R to F-R (1, 2, 3) and N. IR to TSW and V (1). | Good flavor, color, and shelf life. Does best with high fertility and pruned to three leaders. |
| 'FL 47' | Seminis | Midseason | Determinate plant. Medium-sized bush. Very large, deep oblate, firm, smooth fruit. | R to ASC, F-R (1, 2), S, and V (1). | Uniform green fruit are adaptable to both mature-green and vine-ripe harvest. |
| 'Quincy' | Seminis | Full season | Determinate tall plant. Large and extra large fruit with a deep oblate shape. Fruit are firm and uniformly colored. | R to ASC, F-R (1, 2), S, TSW, and V (1). | Excellent fruit quality. |
| 'Red Defender' | Harris Moran | Main season | Vigorous vine with smooth, large, deep-red fruit. | R to ASC, F-R (1, 2), S, TSW, and V (1). | Excellent fruit firmness and shelf life. |
| 'RFT 6153' | Seedway | 77 days | Determinate plant. Large, vigorous bush. Red globe fruit 8–10 oz. | R to F-R (1, 2), S, and V (1). | Good eating quality and fancy appearance; sturdy shipping tomato. Firm enough for vine-ripe and green-mature harvest. |

Table 3. Tomato varieties in North Florida

| Variety | Company | Season | Characteristics of plant and fruit | Resistance ¹ | Comments |
|--------------------|---------------------|------------------------|--|--|--|
| 'Sebring' | Syngenta/ Rogers | Main season | Determinate plant. Medium to tall. Extra large to large, smooth, deep oblate fruit with uniform green shoulders and tight blossom ends. | R to FCR, F-R (1, 2, 3), S, and V (1). | Very popular variety in South Florida for FCR. |
| 'Tygress' | Seminis | Main season | Determinate vigorous plant. Deep oblate, smooth, uniform fruit. | R to ASC, F-R (1, 2), S, ToM, TYLC, and V (1). | High-quality fruit. |
| 'Tribeca' | Vilmorin | Main season | Determinate vigorous plant. Fruit are large to extra large, firm, and dark red. | R to F-R (1, 2) and TSW. | Heat tolerant. |
| 'Tribute' | Sakata | Main season, fall | Vigorous plant with good cover. Large and medium large, smooth, globe-shaped fruit with excellent firmness and color. Mid-early maturity and good heat tolerance. | R to ASC, F-R (1, 2), and V (1). IR to S, TSW, and TYLC. | Advantage of IR to TSW and TYLC. |
| 'Redline' | Syngenta/ Rogers | Main season, spring | Tall determinate plant with good cover. | R to F-R (1, 2, 3), TSW, S, and V (1). | Good fruit quality for vine-ripe or mature-green production. |
| 'Finishline' | Syngenta/ Rogers | Main season, fall | Tall determinate plant with good cover. | R to F-R (1, 2, 3), TSW, S, and V (1). | Good fruit quality for vine-ripe or mature-green production. |
| Plum tomato | | | | | |
| 'BHN 685' | BHN Seed | Midseason | Determinate plant. Vigorous bush. Large to extra large, deep, blocky, globe-shaped fruit. | R to F-R (1, 2, 3), TSW, and V (1). | Strong plant in poor soils. |
| 'Picus' | Seminis | Main season | Determinate plant. Medium to large vigorous plant that provides good fruit cover. Fruit are large, uniform, and blocky, maturing to a deep-red color with great firmness at the red stage. | R to ASC, CLS, F-R (1, 2), TSW, and V (1). | Heat-set capability. |
| 'Regidor' | Western Seed | Main season | Determinate plant. Medium-tall plant with short internodes. Six to eight sets with great fruit quality. | R to F-R (1, 2), TYLC, and V (1). | Roma type for open field production. |

Table 3. Tomato varieties in North Florida

| Variety | Company | Season | Characteristics of plant and fruit | Resistance ¹ | Comments |
|----------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|--|--|---|
| 'Sunoma' | Seminis | Main season | Determinate plant. Good fruit cover. Medium-large, elongated and cylindrical fruit. | R to BSK, F-R (1, 2), N, S, ToM, and V (1). | Widely adapted and maintains fruit size through multiple harvests. |
| 'Tachi' | Sakata | Midseason | Determinate mid-compact plant. Classic saladette shape, predominately extra large, uniform, and very similar to 'Mariana'. Wide adaptability. Suited for concentrated harvests for vine-ripe and mature-green markets. | R to ASC, F-R (1, 2), N, and V (1). IR to TSW. | Advantage over 'Mariana' is TSW resistance. |
| Grape tomato | | | | | |
| 'Brixmore' | Harris Moran | Very early season | Determinate plant. Flavorful, grape-shaped fruit. | R to N, ToM, and V (1). | High brix. Excellent firmness and flavor. Early and high total yield. |
| 'Jolly Elf' | Sg ² , Seedway | Early season | Determinate hybrid plant. Vigorous bush with good cover. Strong set of fruit with uniform size and shape. | R to C, F-R (2), and V (1). | Extended market life and average 10% brix. |
| 'Santa' | Available only by contract | 75 days | Determinate plant. Vigorous bush. Firm, elongated, grape-shaped fruit. | R to F-R (1, 2, 3), N, TM, and V (1). | Outstanding in flavor and up to 50 fruit per truss. |
| 'Sweet Hearts' | Sakata | Early to midseason | Indeterminate plant. Well suited for both indoor and outdoor production. Continuous sets and full clusters to the top of the plant; high yield potential. Uniform fruit with brilliant red color and excellent flavor. | R to C, CLS, F-R (1), and ToM. | Excellent flavor, high brix, and excellent shelf life. |
| 'St. Nick' | Sg ² | Mid-early season | Indeterminate bush. Oblong, grape-shaped fruit with brilliant red color. | Unknown | Up to 10% brix and fantastic flavor. |
| 'Smarty' | Seedway | 69 days | Indeterminate plant. Vigorous bush with short internodes. Plants are 25% shorter than 'Santa'. | R to F-R (1) and V(1). | Good flavor, sweet, and excellent red color. |
| 'Tami G' | Seedway | Early season | Indeterminate bush. Vigorous. Picks for an extended period. Very sweet, firm fruit. | Unknown | Yields well. |
| 'Cupid' | Seminis | 59 days | Indeterminate, vigorous bush. Oval-shaped fruit with an excellent red color. | R to ASC, F-R (1, 2), and S. IR to BSK. | Excellent sweet flavor. |
| Cherry tomato | | | | | |

Table 3. Tomato varieties in North Florida

| Variety | Company | Season | Characteristics of plant and fruit | Resistance ¹ | Comments |
|-----------|----------|--------------------|--|------------------------------|---|
| BHN 268 | BHN Seed | Early to midseason | Determinate tall bush with high yields. | R to F-R (1) and V (1). | Very good shelf life. |
| 'Camelia' | Hazera | Midseason | Indeterminate bush. Deep globe, cocktail-cherry-sized fruit with excellent firmness. | R to F-R (1), TM, and V (1). | Outdoor or greenhouse production and long shelf life. |
| 'Shiren' | Hazera | Midseason | Compact plant with nice cluster. | R to F-R (1, 2), N, and ToM. | High yield potential. |

Note: While this list includes a number of varieties currently popular with Florida growers, it is by no means a comprehensive list of all varieties that may be adapted to the state.

¹See "Disease Key" below for disease abbreviations.

²Sg = Siegers Seed Company. Since these are open-pollinated varieties, many are also available from other companies or individuals. Some have developed their own strains of a certain variety.