## Shy Valley Farm Heirloom tomatoes 2023. www.shyvalleyfarm.com

We have developed this list over more than 27 years of growing heirloom tomatoes in East Tennessee. Our list varies annually, and is driven by customer feedback and performance in our own organic trial gardens. Please see our website for our guide on growing tomatoes organically in the Appalachian Highland region, and feel free to call, text or email us with your questions. I believe all the plants on our list this year are indeterminate.

## Thank you for supporting our family farm.

**Abraham Lincoln**- Reliable, productive plants with large, meaty fruit bursting with homegrown tomato flavor. A classic from Rockford, Illinois, since 1923.

**Amish Paste Heirloom Tomato** 85 days Very productive, flavorful and reliable. Bigger and better than Roma. Makes the ultimate sauce. Flavor is complex and slightly tart.

**Black Cherry Heirloom Tomato** 75 days. Beautiful black cherries look like large, dusky purple-brown grapes; they have that rich flavor that makes black tomatoes famous. Large vines yield very well; very unique and delicious.

**Black Brandywine Heirloom Tomato** 80-120 Days A favorite and category winner in Kingsport's tomato fest. Expect large yields of well-formed, oval shaped, deep black fruit. Flavor is excellent.

**Caspian Pink Heirloom Tomato** 80 Days produces large, flavorful tomatoes that some people call Caspian Footballs. They often crack to some extent, but the flavor makes them worth growing.

**Cherokee Chocolate**. 80 days, ind. This excellent slicing variety first appeared in Craig LeHoullier's garden and was introduced commercially in 2004. It appears to be a stable skin color mutation of Cherokee Purple. Excellent flavor and flesh texture. Sweet, slightly tart, firm but very juicy flesh.

**Cherokee Green Heirloom Tomato** 86 days One of the best green tomatoes. Medium-size 8+ oz. green fruits acquire some yellowish-orange color on the blossom end when ripe. Lots of bold, acidic, complex tomato flavor.

**Cherokee Purple Heirloom Tomato** 77 days A Tennessee treasure. A top 10 heirloom. Flavor is outstanding; rich, smoky, and wine-like. 10-13 oz fruits are dusky brownish-purple with dark green shoulders and brick red flesh. Indeterminate, but with short vines.

**Granny Cantrell German Red Heirloom Tomato** 85 days This meaty, beefsteak-type tomato is named after Lettie Cantrell, who received seeds from a soldier returning from Germany during World War II. She grew this tomato in the hills of eastern Kentucky for many years. This was her favorite tomato and the only one she grew. Each year she saved seeds from the largest tomatoes, some of which reached 2 1/2 lbs. A customer favorite since we introduced it to our offerings in 2014.

**Green Giant**- 85 days. Potato leaf. Outstanding, complex flavor, productive plants. Large emerald-green fruit is smooth and blemish-free, sweet and juicy, with few seeds.

**Hillbilly Heirloom Tomato** 85 days From, (where else?), West Virginia. Huge yellow-orange tomato with red streaking. Sweet, fruity flavor. Fruits usually 1 to 2 pounds. It's a good'un.

**Honeydrop**-70 days, Ind. exceptionally sweet, fruity, and full-bodied tomato flavor. The ideal snacking tomato. Very productive plants.

Japanese Black Trifele 81 days In Russia the Trifele varieties of tomatoes (of which there are several colors) are highly prized and command big prices. This short potato leaf plant yields prolific quantities of 6 oz. fruit that looks like a beautiful mahogany-colored Bartlett pear with greenish shoulders. Very tasty flesh with a meaty core that produces luscious fruit all summer long. A work of art sliced out on a plate and a wonderful flavor that possesses extraordinary rich and complex flavors. The Black Trifele is one of the blackest varieties available and is resistant to cracking.

**Jerusalem Heirloom Tomato** Greene County heirloom. The story is that a man traveled to Israel, and brought these seeds back with him. Large, firm, meaty oxheart type, with few seeds and not a great deal of juice. Great for slicing. The best tomato for California Pie. Rich flavor is fantastic- the perfect blend of sweet and acid. Vines are quite manageable, and very productive over a long season.

**Lillian's Yellow Heirloom Tomato** 88 days Tennessee heirloom unique for its pale, not golden, yellow fruit. Superb, creamy consistency, meaty flesh, and complex, rich flavor. Sweet & juicy, but with few seeds. A top 10 heirloom. Make a yellow tomato soup, salsa or pie.

**Lucky Tiger** 88 days Elongated and green-striped with a striking red blush. The green striping becomes more defined and the background turns red as the interior marbling develops. The overall effect when ripe is of a red tomato with prominent green striping. Excellent sweet, tart flavor.

**Mark Twain** 85 days This indeterminate slicing tomato named after the famed 1800's author, who disliked tomatoes, is fantastic for eating fresh in sandwiches or salads. Growing as big as 24 ounces, these oblate shaped, crack resistant, full flavored, deep red tomatoes are rare and don't take a lot of handling once harvested, so be sure to eat them soon after.

**Moonglow** 80 days Expect heavy yields of beautiful, 6-8 oz., 2", blunt-pointed globes. A brilliant, warm-orange slicer with great flavor. A real winner and one of the best, round, gold tomatoes. (Winner of Seed Saver's Exchange 2007 Heirloom Tomato Tasting.) Moon Glow is considered, by many tomato lovers, the tomato with the best texture and flavor of any yellow-gold tomato. A good choice for a market tomato because of it's long shelf-life and delicious taste. Perfect to spark up tomato salads or to include in culinary creations.

**Mortgage Lifter Heirloom Tomato** 85 days Pink, well-shaped, large, meaty fruit famous for its flavor. An amateur plant breeder developed this tomato over years of selection. He paid off a \$30,000 mortgage in three years (way back in the day) by selling plants and tomatoes from his radiator repair shop.

**Mr. Stripey Heirloom Tomato** 56 days HUGE crops. These 2 inch tomatoes are red with clearly-defined yellow stripes. Rich, tangy flavor. Beautiful in salads, either whole or sliced.

**Old German Heirloom Tomato** 75 days Yellow with orange center, oblate 16 oz. Productive, classic heirloom with fantastic flavor.

**Pineapple Heirloom Tomato** 82 days A customer favorite bicolor tomato. Originally from Kentucky. Meaty and smooth texture, with lots of juice. Fruity and sweet, low acid flavor. Large, up to a pound or more. Fruits are absolutely gorgeous; yellow with red streaking. Especially pretty sliced.

**Pruden's Purple** 70 days. An old family heirloom with a clouded history. It is a potato leaf variety that yields delicious, large, twelve to sixteen ounce fruit with dark pink skin and crimson flesh. Flavor is balanced and rich.

**Purple Bumble Bee** 70 days Purple, round cherry tomato with metallic green striping. Excellent sweet flavor. Purple Bumble Bee is an eye-catching combination of the dusky purple seen in heirloom tomatoes and metallic green striping.

**Riesentraube** 80 days Originally from Germany. Name translates as "giant bunches of grapes." Introduced commercially in the U.S. in 1994 by Southern Exposure Seed Exchange, and I have grown these every year since 1996. High-yielding plants. Tasty 1" fruits are borne on large sprays and have a distinctive point on the blossom end. Wonderful roasted or dehydrated.

**Rutgers** 74 days, IND. Legendary Jersey tomato, introduced in 1934, and still popular for it's outstanding flavor and value as a slicer and canner. Round, red fruits are slightly flattened.

**San Marzano Heirloom Tomato** 80 days Considered the gold standard for tomato sauce. A San Marzano tomato is similar in appearance to a Roma tomato, but thinner and more pointed. The walls of the tomato are much thicker with fewer seeds, which makes San Marzano tomatoes less acidic and sweeter than other tomatoes. The San Marzano has high sugar content and is very high in pectin, giving sauces and pastes a natural creamy thickness. The tall, mostly determinate plants are quite disease resistant and load up with fruit for canning. 5 oz. 80 days

**Striped German Heirloom Tomato** 78 days Bicolor red and yellow fruit. The flat, medium to large tomatoes with variable shoulder ribbing are shaded yellow and red. The marbled interior looks beautiful sliced. Complex, fruity flavor and smooth texture. Medium-tall vines bear 12+ oz. fruit.

**Sunrise Bumble Bee** 70 days Yellow, round cherry tomato with red stripes and pink interior marbling. Sweet, bright flavor. Gorgeous combination of yellows and reds, inside and out. Excellent sweet and tangy flavor.

**Virginia Sweet Heirloom Tomato** 80 days. One of the best tasting, best producing bicolored tomatoes. It is a huge golden-yellow beefsteak variety with red streaks and weighs about a pound. It has an excellent sweet rich tomato taste that goes well in salads and snacks.

**White Cherry** 75 days Pretty, creamy white/very pale yellow. Very sweet and mild flavor, and extremely productive. Really pretty in salads with edible flowers.