

Grafted Tomato Yield Data

In 2010, we used the hoophouse tomato trial at Johnny's research farm in Albion, Maine to try and quantify the yield boost resulting from using a vigorous tomato rootstock grafted to a desirable fruiting variety. Sets of three plants of each variety were grown, with three grafted to Maxifort (#2700) and three grown on their own roots. As you can see from the table, yields averaged over 40% higher for the grafted plants, depending on the fruiting variety. Geronimo, for example, responds very well to grafting, showing a 66% yield boost when grafted to Maxifort.

Individual results may vary, but this is a good illustration of the greatly increased yield possibilities of using grafted tomatoes. This trial was planted in an unheated hoophouse on May 21, 2010, and harvested until the beginning of October. Compost and organically-approved soil amendments were used and plants were spaced two feet apart and trained to a double leader. No supplemental fertilizer or fertigation was used other than the original soil prep, which was amended to meet soil test recommendations for greenhouse crops.

Three plants of each Variety	Yield in Pounds of Ripe Fruit															3 plant total	Avg yield/plant	
	7/26	8/2	8/6	8/10	8/13	8/16	8/20	8/24	8/27	8/30	9/3	9/7	9/10	9/14	9/17			10/4
2064 Cobra grafted	0	0	0	2.9	0.5	6.2	13.2	5.2	3.7	1.8	4.5	4.7	6.6	0	4.2	14	67.5	22.5
2064 Cobra	0	1.2	0.6	1.8	0.2	4.3	6.7	10.4	2.5	2.1	0.6	4.7	3.5	1.8	1.4	9.8	51.6	17.2
2765 Arbason grafted	0	1.9	0	1.3	1.9	7.5	11.8	3.4	1.8	1.5	2.7	2	4.8	0	7.4	12.6	60.6	20.2
2765 Arbason	0.7	0.9	0.4	3.1	0	4.8	8.7	4.2	3.3	5.9	3.7	1.7	4	0.6	2.7	8.8	53.5	17.8
2373 Trust grafted	0.6	1.4	0	1.8	0.4	4.5	5.9	7.1	6.8	2	2.8	4.7	2.6	0.8	4.5	9.5	55.4	18.4
2373 Trust	0.3	1.4	0	0.8	0	2.7	5.4	8.4	3.1	1	2.4	0.4	3.1	0	0.4	0.8	30.2	10.1
2794 Geronimo grafted	0	2.5	3.1	1.1	1.2	2.5	5.4	9.2	14.7	3.3	8.8	1.6	4.4	3.2	9.6	19	89.6	29.8
2794 Geronimo	0.6	1.8	1.5	1.1	2.5	2.5	5.7	12.1	5.7	2.1	3.1	0	3.8	1.7	3.4	6.2	53.8	17.9
2063 Big Beef grafted	1.6	1.3	0	1.1	1.8	15.3	16.4	6.4	3.6	0.8	0	0.9	0	2.2	4.5	21	76.9	25.6
2063 Big Beef	2.1	1.6	1.2	1.3	1.9	13.5	14.4	3.2	0.5	0.6	0	0	0	1.2	1.6	12.2	55.3	18.4