

# TOMATOES: 10 Unsung Heroes



*Johnny's Webinar Series*

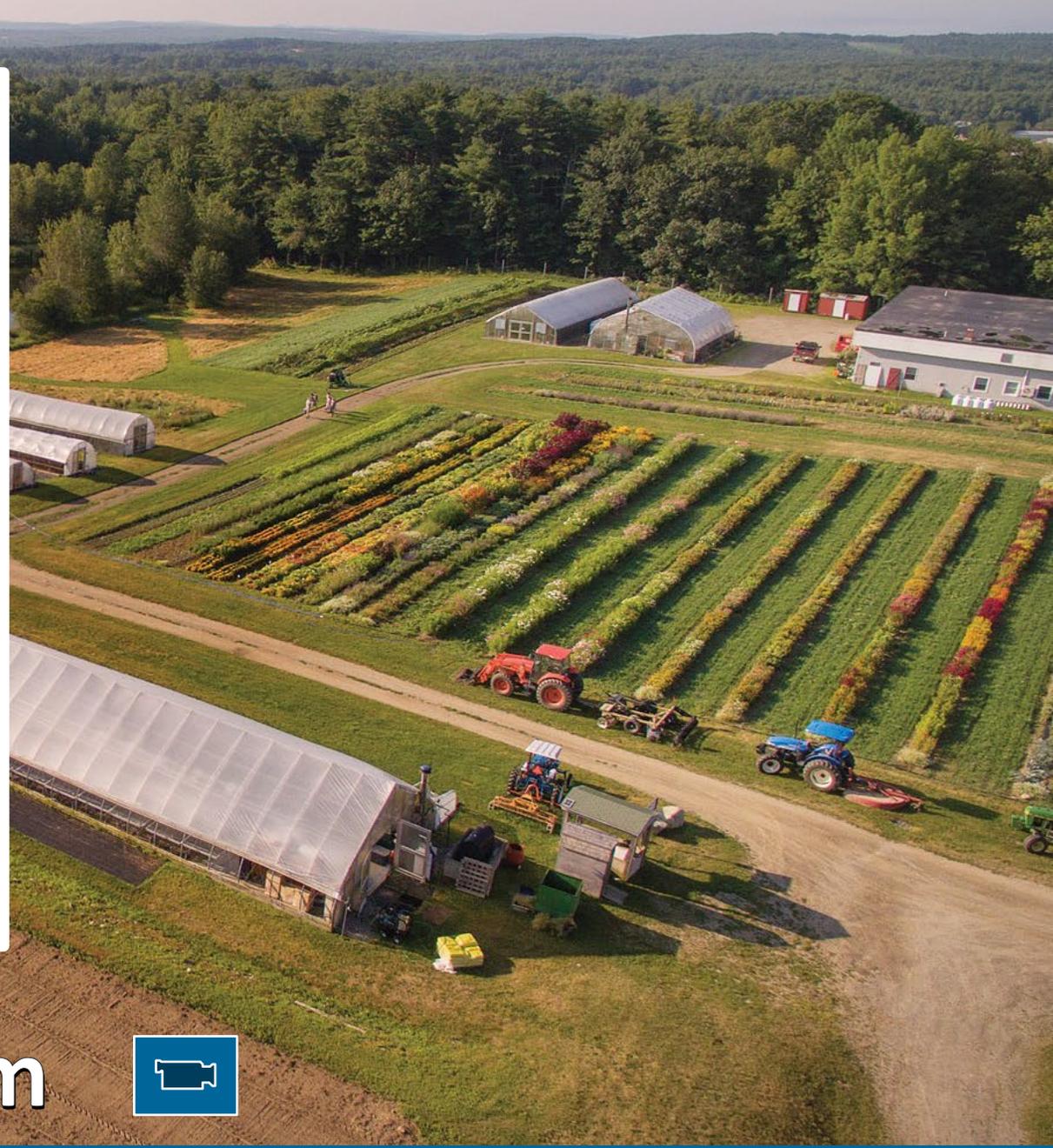
FEATURING:

Pete Zuck, Product Manager

Daniel Yoder, Product Trial Technician

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- The Johnny's Research Farm is located in Albion, Maine
- Of approximately 200 acres, 55 are farmed from year to year across 10-12 fields and 12 greenhouse/high tunnels (most are unheated, but still year-round)
- Tomatoes are one of the most diverse vegetable crops we offer with over 125 varieties in our lineup
- Pete and Daniel are responsible for all tomato decisions, but they rely heavily on impressions from our farm team, sales team, and our customers
- Our tomato trials take place in tunnel and field
- We focus on earliness, yield and flavor along with foliar disease resistance, marketability and plant traits that aid in easier harvesting and trellising
- We also oversee regional trials across North America to test for specific diseases or stresses that may not be available to us in Maine



# About Our Trialing Program



The tomatoes in this presentation each have resistance to various diseases.

Use this table as a reference for the codes.

## Tomato Resistance Codes

(AS)	<i>Alternaria</i> Stem Canker
(CRR)	Corky Root Rot
(EB)	Early Blight
(F)	<i>Fusarium</i> Wilt
(FOR)	<i>Fusarium</i> Crown and Root Rot
(GLS)	Gray Leaf Spot
(LB)	Late Blight
(LM)	Leaf Mold
(N)	Nematodes
(PM)	Powdery Mildew
(TMV)	Tobacco Mosaic Virus
(ToANV)	Tomato Apex Necrosis Virus
(ToMV)	Tomato Mosaic Virus
(TSWV)	Tomato Spotted Wilt Virus
(TYLCV)	Tomato Yellow Leaf Curl Virus
(V)	<i>Verticillium</i> Wilt



**BHN 589 75 days | F, TMV, V**

**Field/Tunnel Semi-Determinate. Introduced in 2014**

## Why You Might Have Avoided It

- Uninspiring name
- Lacks leaf mold as well as other foliar disease resistances
- Determinate tomatoes generally don't taste as good
- Not all that early

**BHN 589 75 days | F, TMV, V**

**Field/Tunnel Semi-Determinate. Introduced in 2014**

## Why You Should Consider It

- It's one of the best tasting hybrid red beefsteaks we sell!
- Semi-determinate meaning it has a mix of vine length/maturity and if basket woven will last all season, can be grafted to have even more longevity
- Vigorous enough to withstand foliar disease pressure even without the resistance genes.

**BHN 589 75 days | F, TMV, V**

**Field/Tunnel Semi-Determinate. Introduced in 2014**



**Estiva 70 days | F, TMV, V**  
**Field/Tunnel Indeterminate. Introduced in 1996**

## Why You Might Have Avoided It

- Varieties without leaf mold or PM resistance are less desired.
- Fruit size is smaller than a true beefsteak.
- There are a LOT of medium sized red tomato varieties out there. You may grow some of the classics like Better Boy, Big Beef, etc.

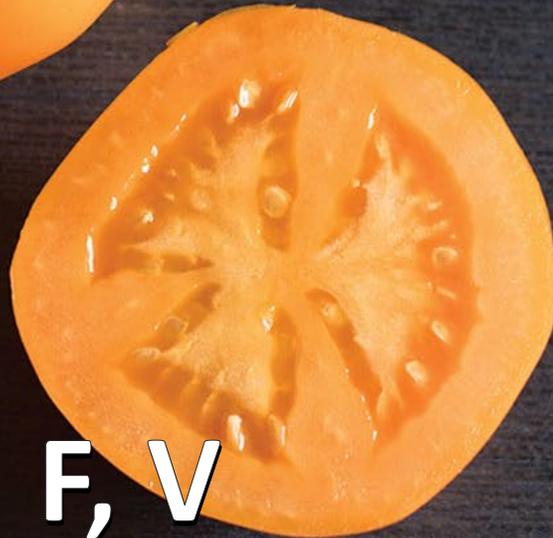
**Estiva 70 days | F, TMV, V**  
**Field/Tunnel Indeterminate. Introduced in 1996**

## Why You Should Consider It

- Great classic tomato flavor, sweet and tangy
- Beautiful fruit with few flaws, high yields
- Compact plant fits well in tunnels.
- Ideal size for fresh market and 3-packs.
- Reported to have excellent heat-set ability, it could be the best heat-set tomato available!

**Estiva 70 days | F, TMV, V**  
**Field/Tunnel Indeterminate. Introduced in 1996**

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**Valencia** 76 days | F, V

Heirloom Indeterminate. Introduced in 2007

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## Why You Might Have Avoided It

- It is an OP tomato
- The color is less popular
- The shapes is not as 'beefy' as other heirlooms

**Valencia** 76 days | F, V

Heirloom Indeterminate. Introduced in 2007

ORGANIC

## Why You Should Consider It

- Gold version of Estiva, but OP Heirloom class
- Very productive
- Good taste and attractive color
- Slight ribbing makes for nice presentation
- We select and maintain this strain, so it is quite rare on the market

**Valencia** 76 days | F, V

Heirloom Indeterminate. Introduced in 2007



**Beorange 75 days | F, FOR, LM, TOMV, V**  
**Greenhouse Indeterminate. Introduced in 2013**

## Why You Might Have Avoided It

- The price is high
- Less popular color
- Orange tomatoes sometimes have a reputation for inferior flavor

**Beorange 75 days | F, FOR, LM, TOMV, V**  
**Greenhouse Indeterminate. Introduced in 2013**

## Why You Should Consider It

- Best in class orange for tunnel and greenhouse growing for it's price
- Sweet, mellow, balanced flavor which is rare in this color class
- Due to the impressive color and eating quality, sometimes mixed into "heirloom"/specialty flats with French Heritage types

**Beorange 75 days | F, FOR, LM, TOMV, V**  
**Greenhouse Indeterminate. Introduced in 2013**



**Kakao** 70 days | F, TOMV

Greenhouse Indeterminate. Introduced in 2015

## Why You Might Have Avoided It

- Smaller fruit size
- Limited disease package (no leaf mold)
- Higher Price

**Kakao** 70 days | F, TOMV

Greenhouse Indeterminate. Introduced in 2015

## Why You Should Consider It

- Big, consistent yields over a long time
- True chocolate color, a nice addition to diversify a specialty tomato mix
- Great flavor
- Improvement on the classic heirloom Black Prince, with tunnel adaptations and far superior crack tolerance without having thick skins

**Kakao** 70 days | F, TOMV

Greenhouse Indeterminate. Introduced in 2015



**Cauralina** 72 days | F, FOR, TOMV  
Greenhouse Indeterminate. Introduced in 2018

## Why You Might Have Avoided It

- No Leaf Mold resistance
- Cumbersome clusters may be intimidating
- Plant looks wimpy - This is a common thing you see with both oxheart and San Marzano type tomatoes.
- Maybe not a type you are used to - not sure how to use it, maybe no established market

**Cauralina** 72 days | F, FOR, TOMV  
Greenhouse Indeterminate. Introduced in 2018

## Why You Should Consider It

- Great fresh market tomato - juicy and flavorful enough for fresh eating - pasty and large enough for processing quickly into sauce or salsa
- Super early
- Extremely generative plant with massive clusters
- Grafting can alleviate the weaker plant habit

**Cauralina** 72 days | F, FOR, TOMV  
Greenhouse Indeterminate. Introduced in 2018



**DRO141TX** CRR, F, FOR, LM, TOMV, V, N

Rootstock. Introduced in 2015

## Why You Might Have Avoided It

- Lacks a proper name/recognition
- Less research available compared to other rootstocks
- You may already use Maxifort

**DRO141TX** CRR, F, FOR, LM, TOMV, V, N  
Rootstock. Introduced in 2015

## Why You Should Consider It

- Improved germination
- Most vigorous rootstock we, but also more balanced and heat tolerant than others
- Taking over the market in heated tunnels

**DRO141TX** CRR, F, FOR, LM, TOMV, V, N  
Rootstock. Introduced in 2015



**Indigo Kumquat 75 days | F, V**

**Field Indeterminate. Introduced in 2017**

## Why You Might Have Avoided It

- Odd flavor in early Indigo varieties may make you think twice
- Fruits vary in size a bit
- A bit pricey

**Indigo Kumquat 75 days | F, V**

**Field Indeterminate. Introduced in 2017**

## Why You Should Consider It

- Interesting add to mixes for color and shape
- Strong producer later into season
- Legitimately great flavor
- Improved plant vigor, plant health, and split tolerance

**Indigo Kumquat 75 days | F, V**

**Field Indeterminate. Introduced in 2017**

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**Clementine** 68 days | F, V  
Field Indeterminate. Introduced in 2015

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## Why You Might Have Avoided It

- Maybe you don't have a market for cocktail tomatoes
- Not a big disease package
- Orange may not be your favorite tomato color.

**Clementine** 68 days | F, V  
Field Indeterminate. Introduced in 2015

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## Why You Should Consider It

- Very deep orange color, solid and not translucent. The shoulders are darker red-orange for a very unique appearance
- Very healthy vines, long production cycle
- Great flavor and great for roasting
- High tolerance to cracking
- Showing tolerance to Stemphylium in NE

**Clementine** 68 days | F, V  
Field Indeterminate. Introduced in 2015



**Sunpeach** 60 days | LM, TOMV  
Field/Tunnel Indeterminate. Introduced in 2013

## Why You Might Have Avoided It

- It's pink, not red - may appear underripe to some customers
- Larger fruit size for a cherry
- Pricey for a field tomato

**Sunpeach** 60 days | LM, TOMV  
Field/Tunnel Indeterminate. Introduced in 2013

## Why You Should Consider It

- One of the best tasting cherries we sell
- Very split resistant
- Big yields
- Better foliar resistances compared to Sun Gold for insurance in the tunnel and field
- Tall oval shape is unique and matches some other great cherries we carry – Yellow Mini, Citrine, Cherry Bomb, White Cherry

**Sunpeach** 60 days | LM, TOMV  
Field/Tunnel Indeterminate. Introduced in 2013

Check out our Growers Library  
for dozens of tomato resources:

<https://www.johnnyseeds.com/growers-library/vegetable-library/tomatoes>

*Thank you*

