

Cultural Details: Tomato Tumbler

VHT003

Tumbler is a completely determinate (bush) tomato, being a small-fruited (cherry) type, which crops abundantly, giving upwards of 2kg per plant. Each plant should carry approximately twenty trusses, and over a complete season, around a hundred fruits should be harvested. The flavour of the fruit is exceptional, having a high sugar and acid content; the fruit quality is good, with spherical fruits of 3cm in diameter being produced throughout the season.

Tumbler lends itself to use in hanging baskets, as the side shoots trail naturally over the edge of the basket after the fruits are formed. A cascade effect is produced, which makes the basket visually attractive when the fruits ripen. Flowers such as Lobelia and Ivy Geranium planted with the tomato enhance the ornamental effect, yet still allow the harvest of a reasonable crop of tasty fruit.

Seed should be sown mid-January (at 21-24oC) for early display work in May, but a sowing date of mid-April is recommended for normal cropping. Seed count is approximately 340 per gram. A 12" basket is recommended and the crop should be fed regularly with a suitable tomato fertilizer.

The variety can also be used as a subject for urns, troughs and grow-bags. Tumbler is of course an ideal subject to be raised as young plants for sale to amateur gardeners. It performs well if planted outdoors in a sheltered, sunny position. It can provide fruit in mid-July from an early April sowing.

During production, monitor the plants for build-up of aphids and whitefly, by using sticky traps, and treat accordingly. There should be few other pest and disease problems during the period from sowing to sale of young plants/planted-up baskets.

Information provided for guidance only, as cultural practices and climatic circumstances vary.