

Seed Saving Level:

# Tomato



*Solanum lycopersicum*

(Formerly *Lycopersicon esculentum*)

**Strategies to reduce cross-pollination:**

Separate varieties by 10 ft or more. Plant other flowering plants between different varieties of tomatoes. Don't collect seeds for the first couple of weeks from tomatoes since early flowers are more open to insect cross-pollination.

**Harvesting:** Squeeze seeds and some pulp into a jar. Add a little water. Let tomato pulp ferment for about 3 days until it develops a fungus on top. Remove fungus. Rinse clean. Dry on a paper towel.  
*Note:* Floating seeds are not viable. Discard.

**Envelope tips:** When saving seeds, consider including the following on the envelope: determinant (bush)/indeterminant (vining), color, days to maturity, use (paste, slicing), shape, size, disease resistance.