Old German Tomato

Solanum lycopersicum 'Old German'

Height: 5 feet

Spread: 3 feet

Spacing: 3 feet

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Group/Class: Heirloom-Indeterminate

Description:

An heirloom, slicer variety that is early to produce large, bright yellow fruit with orange overtones, leading the way to marbled yellow and pink interiors; aromatic with a delicious flavor, perfect for slicing, salads and stuffing



Old German Tomato fruit and flesh
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Edible Qualities

Old German Tomato is an annual vegetable plant that is commonly grown for its edible qualities, although it does have ornamental merits as well. It produces yellow round tomatoes (which are technically 'berries') with a orange blush and gold flesh which are usually ready for picking from mid summer to early fall. This is an indeterminate variety, which means it produces fruit throughout the growing season. The tomatoes have a delicious taste and a fleshy texture.

The tomatoes are most often used in the following ways:

- Fresh Eating
- Eating When Cooked/Prepared
- Cooking
- Canning
- Sauces



Old German Tomato fruit
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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Planting & Growing

Old German Tomato will grow to be about 5 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 3 feet. When planted in rows, individual plants should be spaced approximately 3 feet apart. Because of its vigorous growth habit, it may require staking or supplemental support. This fast-growing vegetable plant is an annual, which means that it will grow for one season in your garden and then die after producing a crop.

This plant can be integrated into a landscape or flower garden by creative gardeners, but is usually grown in a designated vegetable garden. It should only be grown in full sunlight. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. This plant is a heavy feeder that requires frequent fertilizing throughout the growing season to perform at its best. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in rich soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America, and it is considered by many to be an heirloom variety.

Old German Tomato is a good choice for the vegetable garden, but it is also well-suited for use in outdoor pots and containers. With its upright habit of growth, it is best suited for use as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the center of the pot, surrounded by smaller plants and those that spill over the edges. It is even sizeable enough that it can be grown alone in a suitable container. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.