

Gardening

How To Increase Yield Of Tomatoes

By BETTY FRANKEL
Special Writer

"Love apples" are America's favorite vegetable—of are they a fruit?

Whatever, they are certainly better known by the name of "tomato," and they are the most popular homegrown vegetable, Durpee Seed Co. reports that the sale of seeds for Big Boy tomatoes alone exceeds the sale of any other vegetable.

They have been cultivated for over three hundred years, but at first were regarded merely as an interesting ornamental plant. In fact, the fruits were thought to be poisonous.

They were grown in Virginia by Thomas Jefferson, in 1781, but were not regarded as an edible vegetable until around 1834, and did not begin to achieve any popularity until around 1850.

TWO HUNDRED years ago, there were both red and yellow tomatoes, but the fruit was small and ridged like a pumpkin.

Now red, pink, orange, yellow and white varieties are available, and size ranges from the tiny currant-tomato and cherry tomato to giant hybrids that weigh one or two pounds a piece. Round shapes are most favored, but there are also pear and plum shaped tomatoes.

Tomatoes are easy to grow, but often the yield is not as high as it could be. They need sunshine and lots of moisture. They will not produce well when grown in even partial shade and it has been noted that unusually cloudy weather for an extended time will cut the yield.

THE SOIL around the plants should never be allowed to get excessively dry. A lack of moisture can cause the disease known as blossom and rot which causes large black areas to develop at the base of the tomato.

A lack of water followed by an ample supply causes the fruit to crack. Water during dry spells.

Also, it is beneficial to put a mulch around the plants. Grass clippings can be used.



of sheets of black plastic can be spread on the ground.

It is important to keep weeds removed, but care should be taken not to disturb the roots. Cultivate very shallowly. Merely stir up the surface of the soil. Do not cultivate deeply. A good mulch will help prevent the need to cultivate.

TOMATOES ARE known as rather "heavy feeders," but too much nitrogen will cause a rank growth of stems and leaves and little fruit. Use fertilizer that is high in potash such as a 4-8-4 or 5-8-7 formula. A small hand at planting time and another as the plants begin to flower is generally sufficient for soil of moderate fertility.

Tomatoes can be left to sprawl on the ground, or they can be tied to stakes. If they are going to sprawl, they need four to six feet between plants. In addition to the greater space needed, a disadvantage is that the tomatoes may rot where they come into contact with the ground. However, more tomatoes are produced per plant.

WHERE SPACE is limited,

Moving Day Tip

Don't make the mistake of waiting until moving day to start cleaning out and de-fru-ting your refrigerator. Remind the moving experts of Acme Moving & Trunk Co., 1111 E. 12th St., that it should be emptied, de-fru-ting and ready to go when the moving van arrives at your house.

If your refrigerator is a gas model, don't forget to have it disconnected and the gas line capped.

or quality takes precedence over quantity, or a decorative effect is desired, plants can be pruned and trained to a stake.

Staked tomatoes can be two to three feet apart. Sturdy stakes about two inches square and five to six feet long should be used.

After the small tomato plant forms its first cluster of blossoms, it is allowed to grow and should be tied to the stake with soft strips of cloth or "twist-ers." Cut off other side shoots as they develop.

Tomatoes are at their best when ripened on the vine. When fully ripe pick and store in a cool dark place. In hot, damp weather, they will be firmer and slice better if picked before completely ripe and ripened indoors in room temperature, but in the dark of a cupboard or drawer.



LINDA COON

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Koehnlich, of Bruce Street, Plymouth, announce the engagement of their daughter, Linda L. Coon, to Terry B. Kot, son of Mrs. Marion Kot, of Micoi Street, Plymouth, and the late Bernard Kot. Both are graduates of Plymouth High School. The bride-elect is employed at the E. F. MacDonald Travel Co., Southfield, and her fiancé is a senior at Eastern Michigan University. No wedding date has been set.



PATRICIA WALLACE

Mr. and Mrs. Russell J. Wallace, of Livonia, announce the engagement of their daughter, Patricia Ann, to Charles Grishy, son of Mrs. Ollie Grishy, of Livonia. The bride-elect attended Schoolcraft Community College and is now employed by Curtis Industries. A wedding date has been set.



VERNICE CHAPPEL

Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas L. Chappel, of Livonia, announce the engagement of their daughter, Vernice, to Stephen D. Dunklee, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Dunklee, of Grand River Avenue, Farmington. The bride-elect is a graduate of Bentley High School. Her fiancé attends Schoolcraft Community College and is employed by Curtis Industries. A wedding date has been set.



LAURIE CAIRNS

Mr. and Mrs. George H. Cairns, of Bayberry Road, Farmington, announce the engagement of their daughter, Laurie, to Don R. Pocock, son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald E. Pocock, of Ward Avenue, Detroit. The bride-elect is a graduate of Eastern Michigan University. Her fiancé is a student at Eastern Michigan University. Her fiancé is a graduate of Ferris State College and a member of Delta Sigma Psi fraternity. The couple plans to marry next June.



SUSAN HAYSKAR

Mr. and Mrs. Eino O. Hayskar, of Sheldon Road, Plymouth, announce the engagement of their daughter, Susan Gay, to Thomas Michael Zakrzewski, son of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Zakrzewski, of Jackson. The bride-elect is a senior at Eastern Michigan University and a member of Zeta Tau Alpha sorority. Her fiancé is a graduate of the University of Michigan and continuing his studies there. He is affiliated with Sigma Xi fraternity, the American Chemical Society and the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics. Both are employed this summer in science research at U. of M. A winter wedding is planned.

OBITUARIES

LAURENCE E. LIVINGSTON Services were held July 29 in Schrader Funeral Home, Plymouth, in charge of Rev. Herbert C. Brubaker, Jr., of Plymouth, 521 S. 2nd Street, Plymouth. Burial was in Lakeland Cemetery.

Mr. Livingston was Plymouth High School graduate from 1951 until 1957, and then in charge of the band and orchestra at Plymouth Junior High East until his death. A scholarship to the National Music Camp at Interlochen has been established in his name.

Survivors include his wife, Mildred; his mother, Mrs. Zeila Colton of Plymouth; two sons, Dale of Plymouth and Larry of Decorah, Ia.; and one sister, Mrs. Ronald Lyke of Northville.

JOHN A. CUMMINGS John Joseph Cummings, 88, of 21804 South Brandon, Farmington, died July 23 in Livonia Nursing Home.

Services were held July 25 in St. Alexander's Church, the Rev. Albert C. Kolch officiating.

Burial was in Oakview Cemetery, Royal Oak. Arrangements were handled by Heene-Sundquist Funeral Home.

Mr. Cummings had been a Farmington resident for four years.

Surviving are a son, John A. Cummings, of Farmington, and two grandchildren.

HAROLD E. KELSEY Services were held July 25 in Kingdom Hall, Plymouth, in

charge of Mr. C. Carson Cooney, of Mr. Kelsey, 79, of 820 Harding, Plymouth, who died July 24 in Bostford Hospital.

A retired machinist, Mr. Kelsey is survived by his wife, Geraldine; three daughters, Fara and Deanna, both of Boston, and Mrs. James (Jean) Harvey of Kalamazoo; and one son, Norman of New York.

STAFF SGT. C. M. KELLEY Military services were held July 29 in the Schrader Funeral Home, Plymouth, in charge of Rev. Theodore W. Heper, Jr., of Army Staff Sgt. Covert M. Kelley, 32, of 9817 Newburgh Rd., Livonia, who died July 23 of natural causes at the Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Aberdeen, Md. Interment was in Glen Eden Cemetery, Livonia.

He is survived by his wife, Irene; one son, Shawn; two brothers, John of Plymouth and Cloris of Lewiston, Pa.; and six sisters, Mrs. Nema Trell of Garden City, Pa.; Mrs. Lois Beers of Coalport, Pa.; Mrs. Virginia Miller of Erie, Pa.; Mrs. Ramona Marano of Livonia, Pa.; Mrs. Jessie Gerardo of Oaklawn, Ill.; and Mrs. LaVerna Dotts of Berwindale, Pa.

MILFORD L. PIERON Services for Milford L. Pieron, 41, of 31370 Shaw, Farmington, were held July 25 in Thayer Funeral Home, with burial following in Franklin Cemetery.

The Rev. Arthur Norris, of Northview United Brethren Church officiated.

A U.S. Navy veteran of World

War II, Mr. Pieron died July 19 after a short illness. He was a 1944 graduate of Farmington High School, had lived in Farmington for 28 years and had been employed in plant protection at the General Motors Detroit Diesel Division.

Surviving are his wife, Lois Irene; a daughter, Susanne; two sons, Dale LaVerne and Gary; his father, Ferdinand Pieron; and a sister, Rita Pieron, of Farmington.

CHARLOTTE DUCOMMUN Services were held July 22 in the Catholic Funeral Home, Northville, in charge of Rev. St. D. Kinde, for Mrs. Ducommun, 83, of 3066 St. Mary Court, Pinckney, who died July 20. Interment was in South Lyon Cemetery.

A resident of the Plymouth-Northville area for 35 years until 1965, Mrs. Ducommun is survived by her husband, Albert; one daughter, Mrs. Lucille Grissom, of Walled Lake; and several grandchildren.

WILLIAM F. RUTENBAR Services for William F. Rutenbar, 96, of 22850 Maple, Farmington, were held July 28 at Heene-Sundquist Funeral Home, the Rev. Carl H. Schmitt, of Salem United Church of Christ officiating.

Burial was in Clareville Cemetery.

Born Dec. 5, 1870, in Redford Township, Mr. Rutenbar died July 25 in Ardmore Convalescent Home. He had lived in the Farmington area for 12 years and was a retired farmer.

Survivors include three sons, Charles F., of Redford Township; Arthur, of Farmington and Earl, of Brighton; a daughter, Mrs. Viola Thiede, of Livonia; a sister, Mrs. Eva Fendi, of Farmington; seven grandchildren; 16 great grandchildren; and three great-great grandchildren.

BERNICE M. DEMPSEY Services for Bernice M. Dempsey, 75, of 21400 Jackson-ville, Farmington, were held July 24 in Heene-Sundquist Funeral Home, the Rev. Douglas T. Smith, of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church of Livonia, officiating.

Burial was in Grand Lawn Cemetery.

Mr. and Mrs. Russell J. Wallace, of Livonia, announce the engagement of their daughter, Patricia Ann, to Charles Grishy, son of Mrs. Ollie Grishy, of Livonia. The bride-elect attended Schoolcraft Community College and is now employed by Curtis Industries. A wedding date has been set.

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Mr. and Mrs. Walter J. Krawczyk, of Livonia, announce the engagement of their daughter, Diane, to Ronald Bullock, son of Mr. and Mrs. Elroy Bullock, of Redford Township. A fall wedding is planned.

HERBERT E. BENJAMIN Herbert E. Benjamin, 89, father of Robert E. Benjamin, Farmington public schools art consultant, died Saturday, July 22, 1967 at a private rest home in Farmington Township.

A blacksmith for 67 years, he had lived on Mackinac Island all his life where his family moved when he was one year old. He had spent several winters in Farmington with his daughter, Mrs. Dorothy J. Zack, before going to the rest home two years ago.

During his many years of operating the island blacksmith shop, he did horseshoeing, carriage repair and metal work that ranged from handwrought and iron to precision steel parts for yacht engines. He ran the shop for his father, who began it in 1883. He was Sheriff for nine years and postmaster for 30 years.

He was a charter member (1904) of the Little Stone Church (Congregational) at Mackinac Island.

Funeral services took place July 25 at the Little Stone Church on Mackinac Island with burial in the Mackinac Island Cemetery.

Also surviving are three grandchildren.

Local arrangements were handled by Thayer Funeral Home.

Engaged

Mr. and Mrs. Walter J. Krawczyk, of Livonia, announce the engagement of their daughter, Diane, to Ronald Bullock, son of Mr. and Mrs. Elroy Bullock, of Redford Township. A fall wedding is planned.

Fly Control

Ideas Tested

Recent research, which has led to excellent fly control on Mackinac Island, shows promise of controlling flies on the island -- and the rest of the state -- for many years to come.

Michigan State University entomologists Roger A. Hooplin, Gordon E. Guyer and David H. Krause found methods for raising several colonies of flies from relatively small numbers collected on the island. They then tested the colonies for susceptibility to several insecticides.

By using these research procedures, they were able to raise three times as many generations as would occur naturally each year. And by testing various insecticides on successive generations, they were able to foresee at what point the flies would start becoming resistant to the chemicals and could then start looking for new and effective chemicals even before the need arose.

SPACE CHITS

For maximum reliability, all welded electronic printed circuit boards used in various space program applications are specified in commercially pure nickel.

A Modern General Store

The pioneer usually made a one-stop trip to the general store. Now the trend is back to the convenience of one-stop shopping instead of many stops at the drug store, dime store, bakery, butcher shop and hardware.

During the last ten years, food sales have increased 51 percent while non-food sales in food stores have increased 140 percent.

Two out of three shoppers include at least one non-food item in their shopping cart. A man shopping alone spends the highest percentage of money for non-food items. Suburban shoppers purchase the most non-food items; city shoppers, the least. The older the shopper the less spent for non-food items.

Food stores will continue to expand both lines and varieties of non-food items and give more space to these products. While non-foods represent 32 percent of total food store sales, they contribute heavily to total store profit.

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Outdoor Concert Offerings Dwindle

Summer outdoor concert offerings are beginning to dwindle. Schoolcraft College's Court Concerts ended a four-week run last Wednesday, and the University of Michigan's Fall Lane Festival in Dearborn ended a week ago.

Oakland University's Meadow Brook Festival will continue to Aug. 20 on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 8:30 p.m. and Sundays at 6:30 p.m. The Detroit Symphony and visiting soloists perform on the OU campus in Rochester.

The Detroit Concert Band Alternates between Belle Isle's bandshell and the Michigan State Fairground. This is the only free series.

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GOING FOR A RIDE?

Why Not Drop Anchor at The Smorgasbord Skipper's Table?

If you're going for a drive, the Girl from Skipper's Table suggests you drop by and stretch your legs at either of the two Skipper's Table Restaurants, 33201 Plymouth Rd. at Farmington Rd. or 7030 West 7 Mile Rd. one block west of Livonia. Lunch is only 99 cents weekdays. Dessert and beverage is extra. Come as you are... it's a family place to eat.