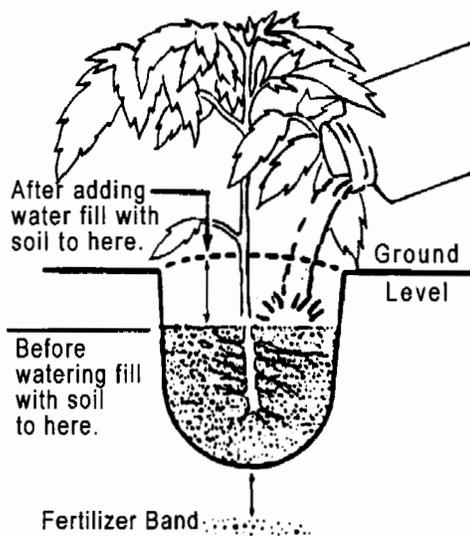


Tomato Transplants



Place transplants 2 to 3 inches below ground level.

Transplanting and Care of Your Tomato:

Set the plants out as soon as possible after you get them home. In the sunniest place in your garden, dig a hole deep enough to place the plant 2 to 3 inches deeper than it was in the flat (a tomato stem which is buried will produce roots; therefore, the deeper you can transplant, up to the second leaf from the top, the better). Cover the roots with soil, add about a quart of water, and then finish filling the hole. If the tomatoes are to be staked, space plants 12 to 18 inches apart in rows 3 or 4 feet apart. For plants that will not be staked, space them 1.5 to 2 feet apart in 4 to 5 foot rows. Staking tomatoes conserves garden space and improves fruit quality, but is not necessary in California.

For best results, fertilizer applications are split. Pre-plant, a balanced fertilizer containing nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium, should be banded 2 to 4 inches below transplanting depth or a hands breadth to the side (e.g. cottonseed meal or 15-20-15). Work composted manure or other soil amendments into bed prior to transplanting. One or more side dressings of fertilizer containing nitrogen can be applied. Rates and timing of applications will vary with the fertilizer. Consult a U.C. Master Gardener or local nurseryman for specific recommendations.

Tomatoes root to a depth of 4 to 5 feet unless restricted by hardpan, rock, or a high water table. Enough water should be applied to moisten the soil to a depth of a least 3 feet. (During the peak of fruit set, 3 to 4 inches of water applied once a week.) Water requirements will increase as tomatoes grow and temperatures rise, but care should be taken not to over water. Mulching can reduce watering and nitrogen rich mulches such as alfalfa can add nutrients. Tomatoes like mulch. Good luck with your U.C. Davis Department of Plant Sciences Department tomato transplants

Varietal Descriptions

Tomato Varieties

Shady Lady VFTA Hybrid Well known in California for being a top performer in tomato fields and a favorite in farmers' markets, this one grows well in other regions and climates. Large, determinate vines with ample foliage provide excellent coverage for the fruit, preventing sunburn, hence the name Shady Lady. Round, globe-shaped red tomatoes range from medium to extra large, and have an excellent flavor. Determinate. 75 days

- V verticillium wilt
- F fusarium race 1
- F fusarium race 2
- N Nematodes
- T tobacco mosaic virus
- A Alternaria

- Note: Days to ripe fruit are to be used in making relative comparisons only. Results in your garden may vary.