

Cultural Information for: Tomato Red Robin Annual
Common Name: Tomato
Botanical Name: Lycopersicon esculentum
Seed Count: 17,000/ounce 600/gram
Optimum Germination Temperature: 68-77°F / 20-25°C
Optimum Growing Temperature: 62-65°F / 17-18°C

Media: Peat-lite mixes work well at a soil pH of 5.8 – 6.2.

Temperature: Red Robin is sensitive to disease and cool temperatures can invite disease and foliage problems (below 60°F/15°C). Warm temperatures can stretch the plants (above 75°F/24°C).

Plug Culture - 3 weeks (288 / 12 x 24 tray)

Stage 1 (days 1-5) Use a well-drained media with a pH between 5.8 and 6.2 and a soil EC > 0.5 mmhos (2:1 dilution). A 288 cell plug tray works well. Lightly cover the seed with medium vermiculite and maintain sufficient moisture and a soil temperature of 68–77°F/20– 25°C.

Fertilizer: Tomato Red Robin grows quickly and weekly applications of 100 ppm of nitrogen using a well-balanced calcium nitrate based fertilizer helps to produce plants of high quality. Optimum EC level is 0.8 -1.0 mmhos (2:1 dilution).

Stage 2 (days 6-10) Tomatoes germinate quickly and after emergence one should place the plug trays in a well-ventilated greenhouse with high light. Maintain a day temperature of 65°F/18°C and a night temperature of 62°F/ 17°C. A light application of fertilizer at 50-75 ppm of nitrogen from a well balanced calcium nitrate based formulation will greatly benefit in helping to establish strong and healthy seedlings.

Disease: Botrytis, Fusarium. Good sanitation and growing culture will aid in keeping the plants healthy.

Pests: Whitefly, caterpillar, worms, aphids

Stage 3 (days 10-15) Water and fertilize as needed to maintain healthy plugs. An application of 75 ppm of nitrogen is recommended at least once a week. Avoid using ammonium nitrate and urea based fertilizers as these promote soft growth. Watering just before wilt is recommended to avoid lush growth. Optimum EC level is 0.75 mmhos, (2:1 dilution). Watering early in the morning allows the foliage to dry thoroughly and prevents potential disease problems.

Scheduling:

| Container Size | Total Crop Time |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| 1801 cell pack | 7 weeks* |
| 4 inch / 10 cm. | 8 weeks* |
| 6 inch / 15 cm | 10 weeks** |
| 1 gallon / 4 liter | 14 weeks*** |

*sold green

**sold with immature fruits (may require staking)

***sold with mature fruit (requires staking for shipping)

Stage 4 (days 16-21) Tomatoes develop rapidly and are often ready to transplant after three weeks, (depending upon the plug cell size used). One can drop the air temperature to 60°F/16°C to hold plug trays for a few days. Avoid temperatures below 60°F/16°C as this will invite disease problems.

Tomato Red Robin is a small fruited determinate ornamental. Fruits turn red approximately 100 days from sowing and ultimately will reach 7 inches/18 cm. tall by 8 inches/ 20 cm. wide.

“All information given is intended for general guidance only and may have to be adjusted to meet individual needs. Cultural details are based on North America conditions and Sakata cannot be held responsible for any crop damage related to the information given herein. Application of recommended growth regulators and chemicals are subject to local and state regulations. Always follow manufacturer's label instructions.”

Finished Production: 4-7 weeks

Container Size: Red Robin is a dwarf variety with good branching. It can be sold in both packs and pots without fruit. It also can be staked in one gallon/4 liter pots with mature fruit.