East Bay Nursery

Better Boy Tomato

Solanum lycopersicum 'Better Boy'



Better Boy Tomato fruit
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 6 feet

Spread: 24 inches

Spacing: 24 inches

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Description:

Known for high yields of fruit, Better Boy produces beautiful juicy scarlet red tomatoes, weighing almost 1 pound each; known as a slicer, its perfect for sandwiches, salads, canning and sauces; leaves and roots are toxic; requires staking



Better Boy Tomato fruit
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Edible Qualities

Better Boy Tomato is an annual vegetable plant that is typically grown for its edible qualities. It produces large scarlet round tomatoes (which are technically 'berries') with red flesh which are typically harvested when mature. The tomatoes have a pleasant taste and a juicy texture.

The tomatoes are most often used in the following ways:

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

Planting & Growing

Better Boy Tomato will grow to be about 6 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 24 inches. When planted in rows, individual plants should be spaced approximately 24 inches apart. 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 difficult to integrate into a landscape or flower garden, and is best 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. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in rich soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone over the growing season to conserve soil moisture. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.

Better Boy 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.