

CITIZEN SEED TRIAL

Be a part of seed system
evolution



2019 Tomato Adaptation Trials

Principe Borghese

CHARACTERISTICS

Known for its ideal sun drying features, the heirloom Principe Borghese tomato can be enjoyed just as well fresh or canned. The small, red, plum-shaped fruit typically grows to 2 inches and 1 or 2 oz in size. The fruit generally has very little juice and seeds, making it ideal for drying. It is a determinate plant, meaning it reaches a certain height and then ceases to grow (as opposed to indeterminates, which continue to grow and produce fruit throughout the growing season).

ORIGINS

The tomato is native to the high drylands of Peru. After the 16th century, tomato seeds were brought back to Europe to be sowed. Tomatoes thrived in the Mediterranean climate of Italy, and Principe Borghese is no exception - it can be traced back to the early 20th century in Southern Italy.

GROWTH

The Principe Borghese tomato is fast growing and reaches maturity in approximately 70 days. It benefits from some form of support, as the plant can grow up to 6ft and can produce many clusters of heavy fruit. The fruit's skin is crack resistant and hardy. The heat tolerant plant enjoys warm, sunny weather for optimal growing.

OUR SOURCES

For the 2019 Citizen Seed Trial, we have gathered Principe Borghese seeds from 4 sources in 4 unique environments: Sunshine Farm in Kelowna, BC; Hawthorne Farm in Palmerston, ON; Adaptive Seeds in Sweet Home, OR; and Seed Savers Exchange in Idaho, USA. Fun fact: Sunshine Farm personally picked up their seeds in Florence, Italy in 2012 and have been growing them ever since.