

# TOMATO TALK

Sponsored by the Rochester  
Public Library Seed Library

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## AGENDA:

- Tomato types
- Trellising
- Hardening Off
- Site and Planting

# TOMATO TYPES

- Indeterminate

These continue growing until frost or other conditions kill them

Can easily grow 6-8 feet tall

They produce fruit throughout the season

Most heirloom tomatoes are indeterminate.

- Determinate

These grow to a certain size and stop growing

They tend to set all their fruit within couple of weeks

Many hybrids are determinates

- Dwarf

Not as many options. These are more recently developed for the market



Indeterminate tomato



Determinate tomato

# TRELLISING

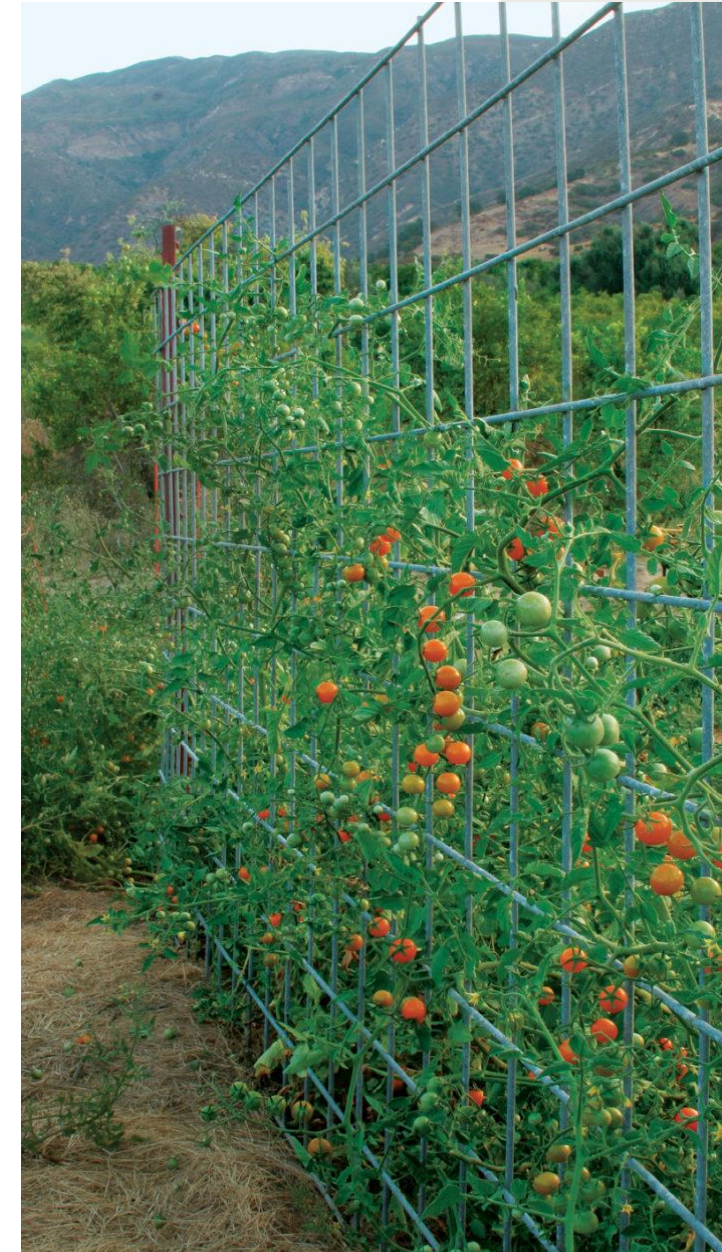
Determinate and Dwarf tomatoes can be adequately supported with a wire cage

Indeterminate tomatoes need much more support!

Heavy-duty cages with stakes

Top Rail method

Cattle Panels



# HARDENING OFF YOUR SEEDLINGS



Gradually introduce your young plants to the outside.

They need to be acclimated to the sun and the wind.

This is traditionally done by moving them outside and back inside each day. This can be difficult if you work away from home.

Can use shady spots around your home or various shade cloths.



## SITE AND PLANTING

- Full sun location (6 hours/day min.)
- Well-drained soil, amended with compost
- Well-balanced organic fertilizer
  
- Remove lower leaves
- Plant deeply, right up to the leaves
- Water in well
- Water daily for 7-10 days



QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?