

# Tomato Red Robin

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|----------------|--------------------------------------|
| Crop           | Tomato                               |
| Series         | Red Robin                            |
| Botanical name | <i>Solanum lycopersicum</i>          |
| Plant type     | Annual                               |
| Seed type      | Performax                            |
| Seed count     | 500 seeds / gr                       |
| Germination    | 20-25 °C - 7-14 days light inhibited |
| Growing        | 17-18 °C                             |
| Optimum pH     | 5.8-6.2                              |

## Plug Culture: 3 weeks (288 cell tray)

**Stage 1** (days 1-5) Sow the seeds into a plug tray filled with well-drained media with low fertilizer and a pH between 5.8 and 6.2. Lightly cover the seed with medium vermiculite and maintain sufficient moisture and a soil temperature of 20-25°C.

**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 18 °C and a night temperature of 17 °C. A light application of fertilizer at 50 ppm of nitrogen from a well-balanced calcium nitrate based formulation will greatly benefit in helping to establish strong and healthy seedlings.

**Stage 3** (days 11-15) Water and fertilize as needed to maintain healthy seedlings. An application of 75 ppm of nitrogen is recommended at least once a week. Watering just before wilt is recommended to avoid lush growth. Optimum EC level is 0.75 mS/cm, (1:2 slurry). Watering early in the morning allows the foliage to dry thoroughly and prevents potential disease problems.

**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 16 °C to hold plug trays for a few days. Avoid temperatures below 16°C as this will invite disease problems.

## Transplanting to Finish: 4-7 weeks

**Containers:** Red Robin is a dwarf variety with good branching. It can be sold in pots without fruit. It also can be staked in 15 cm or larger pots with fruit.

**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 15°C). Warm temperatures can stretch the plants (above 24°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 mS/cm (1:2 slurry).

**Disease:** botrytis, fusarium. Good sanitation and growing culture will aid in keeping the plants healthy.

**Pests:** whitefly, caterpillar, worms, aphids

**Crop Schedule:** 1 plant per pot.

10 cm pot: 5 weeks after transplanting.

15 cm pot: 6-7 weeks after transplanting.

Plants ultimately will reach 18 cm tall by 20cm 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 Asian conditions such as in Japan and Sakata cannot be held responsible for any crop damage related to the information given herein. Always follow manufacturer's label instructions. Testing a few plants*

*prior to treating the entire crop is best.*