

## Arkansas Traveler

### TOMATO *Solanum lycopersicum*

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Provide support (trellises or tall cages) for healthier plants and easier harvest.

**Culture:** Sow indoors in well-draining containers in early spring, 6 weeks before average last frost. Keep the seedlings at 75–85°F during the day, 50–60°F at night. Transplant to 3 in. pots when 3–4 true leaves develop. Harden off and transplant to the garden after average last frost. Protect the seedlings with covers if frost threatens! Apply thick organic mulch. Provide fertile, well-drained soil rich in phosphorus and even moisture. Days to maturity are from transplanting.

**Harvest:** Tomatoes are ripe after turning color. Harvest frequently to promote production. Store over 50°F; refrigeration diminishes the flavor.

**Seed Savers:** To save seeds for home planting, isolate from other tomatoes by at least 35 ft.

Soil  
Temp.  
60–85°F

Sowing  
Depth  
¼"

Final Plant  
Spacing  
24–48"

Final Row  
Spacing  
36–48"

Light  
Full Sun

Days to  
Emerge  
7–14

