Darkstar Tomato

Solanum lycopersicum 'Darkstar'



Darkstar Tomato fruit
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 5 feet

Spread: 3 feet

Spacing: 24 inches

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Group/Class: Beefsteak-Indeterminate

Description:

A wonderful early maturing and high yielding selection producing large, rich purple beefsteak tomatoes; delicious well balanced flavor, perfect for fresh eating, sandwiches or making sauce; resistant to late blight; best grown in ground with trellising

Edible Qualities

Darkstar Tomato is an annual vegetable plant that is commonly grown for its edible qualities. It produces large brick red round tomatoes (which are technically 'berries') with purple overtones and red flesh which are usually ready for picking from early summer to early fall. This is an indeterminate variety, which means it produces fruit throughout the growing season. 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

Darkstar Tomato will grow to be about 5 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 3 feet. When planted in rows, individual plants should be spaced approximately 24 inches apart. Because of its vigorous growth habit, it may require staking or supplemental support. 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 may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. This plant is a heavy feeder that requires frequent fertilizing throughout the growing season to perform at its best. 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.

Darkstar 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.