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SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

SHARING
SECRETS

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“What tomato varieties that you have grown are your favorites? Why? In what part of our area is your garden?”

‘Sungold’ for its sweetness and ‘Italian Plum’ for cooking. - *SG*

‘Juliet’ is an excellent tomato plant. The small two-inch fruits are crack resistant and have good vine storage and shelf life. Juliets are excellent in salads, in fresh salsas and pasta sauces, and when eaten as snacks. Juliet plants are indeterminate in growth and need a tall support. They are disease resistant and adaptable to various growing conditions. They bear a huge number of tomatoes over a long harvest period. Juliet is an All-American Selections Winner. Who could ask for more? - *RC*

I don't really even like tomatoes, but I'm trying to develop a taste for them, mainly the small "bite-size" kinds. A few years ago I grew some 'Yellow Pear' in my garden, not in a separate vegetable garden but amongst the garden plants. Though I hand watered them in the beginning, the initial survivors were eventually weaned onto the drought regime of watering every 2 weeks. The resulting tomatoes were pretty good. I was even surprised to find during winter one still surviving among the shrubbery and still producing fruit.

This year I also grew 'Yellow Pear', as well as 'Garden Cherry', but this time in containers so the watering would be more reliable. So they were watered more regularly and frequently. As a result I thought the tomatoes were somewhat bland.

But during the summer I also bought some ‘Sugar Plum’ organic grape tomatoes at Wild Oats, and they were really delicious, so I've made a note to try to get seed of that variety to grow next year. - *KM*

‘Sungold’ cherry tomato. Very sweet! - *LC, coastal Torrance*

‘Sweet 100’ (cherry tomato), ‘Lemon Boy’ and ‘Celebrity’. Heirlooms are fun, too, but I got tired of fighting off nematodes. - *LB, Pasadena*

'Celebrity' is the perfect size. - K

Anonymous Contributors

'Purple Cherokee' is all around delicious and has beautiful color.

My favorite is the small, orange 'Super Gold'. I live in La Cañada.