



**Trial of Tomato,
cherry and cherry-plum types,
grown in the plastic tunnel
2007**



Sub-Committee assessing the plants



Sub-Committee tasting the fruit

**Entries receiving
The Award of Garden Merit (H2)**



'Apero' AGM (H2) 2007.

Sent by A L Tozer Seeds Ltd.

Fruit is shiny, red and slightly oval; average size 3cm diameter, 3.5cm long; average weight of a single fruit 18.7g. First picked 31 July. Each plant produced an average of 135 ripe fruits, with around 21 fruits per truss. Brix-test result: 9.5% average sugar content.

Good yield of oval fruits on compact trusses. Good flavour.

Available in one retail catalogue.



'Cherrola'

Sent by John Bertinat Seeds Ltd.

Fruit is shiny, red and round; average size 3.2cm diameter, 3cm long; average weight of a single fruit 18.1g. First picked 31 July. Each plant produced an average of 157 ripe fruits, with around 27 fruits per truss. Brix-test result: 9% average sugar content.

High yield, with attractive fruit well spaced on long trusses. Nice flavour.

Available in one retail catalogue.



'Favorita' AGM (H2) 2007.

Sent by and available from Johnsons Seeds.

Fruit is shiny, red and slightly oval; average size 3.2cm diameter, 3.5cm long; average weight of a single fruit 21.2g. First picked 31 July. Each plant produced an average of 123 ripe fruits, with around 25 fruits per truss. Brix-test result: 8.8% average sugar content

High yield of attractive, round/oval fruits. Very sweet flavour.

Available in one retail catalogue.



'Golden Sweet' AGM (H2) 2007.

Sent by and available from Thompson & Morgan Ltd.

Fruit is shiny, yellow and a long oval; average size 2.5cm diameter, 4cm long; average weight of a single fruit 17.9g. First picked 31 July. Each plant produced an average of 107 ripe fruits, with around 21 fruits per truss. Brix-test result: 10% average sugar content.

Good yield of attractive, yellow plum-cherry tomatoes. Good flavour and texture.

Available in two retail catalogues.



'Jasper' AGM (H2) 2007.

Sent by and available from Mr Fothergill's Seeds.

Fruit is shiny, red and round; average size 3.4cm diameter, 3.2cm long; average weight of a single fruit 21.8g. First picked 31 July. Each plant produced an average of 106 ripe fruits, with around 27 fruits per truss. Brix-test result: 9% average sugar content

Good yield of round fruits. Very good flavour.

Widely available.



'Nectar' AGM (H2) 2007, previous award AGM (H3) 1998.

Sent by and available from Mr Fothergill's Seeds.

Fruit is shiny, red and round; average size 3cm diameter, 3cm long; average weight of a single fruit 16.7g. First picked 31 July. Each plant produced an average of 177 ripe fruits, with around 28 fruits per truss. Brix-test result: 9.1% average sugar content.

Good yield from tidy plants with long trusses. Very good flavour.

Available in three retail catalogues.



'Piccolo' AGM (H2) 2007.

Sent by Pro-Veg Seeds Ltd.

Fruit is shiny, red and round; average size 3cm diameter, 3cm long; average weight of a single fruit 18.2g. First picked 31 July. Each plant produced an average of 112 ripe fruits, with around 42 fruits per truss. Brix-test result: 10.1% average sugar content.

Good yield. Small, cocktail sized fruits with very good flavour.

Widely available.



'Rosada' AGM (H2) 2007.

Sent by and available from Thompson & Morgan Ltd.

Fruit is shiny, red and a long-oval; average size 2.5cm diameter, 4cm long. Average weight of a single fruit 15.5g. First picked 8 August. Each plant produced an average of 143 ripe fruits, with around 24 fruits per truss. Brix-test result: 10.5% average sugar content.

Good yield of bright red, long plum-cherry tomatoes. Good, sweet flavour.

Available in one catalogue.



'Sakura' AGM (H2) 2007.

Sent by and available from Johnsons Seeds.

Fruit is shiny, red and round; average size 3.2cm diameter, 3.2cm long; average weight of a single fruit 22.3g. First picked 31 July. Each plant produced an average of 165 ripe fruits, with around 37 fruits per truss. Brix-test result: 8.8% average sugar content.

High yield. Very bright fruits carried on long trusses. Very sweet flavour.

Widely available.



'Suncherry Premium' AGM (H2) 2007.

Sent by A L Tozer Ltd.

Fruit is shiny, red and a slightly-flattened round; average size 3.5cm diameter, 3cm long; average weight of a single fruit 20.9g. First picked 31 July. Each plant produced an average of 126 ripe fruits, with around 31 fruits per truss. Brix-test result: 9.2% average sugar content.

High yield. Attractive shiny fruits are uniform in size. Good flavour.

Available in one retail catalogue.



'Sungold' AGM (H2) 2007.

Sent by and available from D T Brown & Co.

Fruit is shiny, orange-yellow and round; average size 3cm diameter, 2.7cm long; average weight of a single fruit 13.3g. First picked 31 July. Each plant produced an average of 120 ripe fruits, with around 22 fruits per truss. Brix-test result: 9.3% average sugar content.

Good yield of attractive, round, golden-orange fruits. Good flavour.

Widely available.



'Sunset' AGM (H2) 2007, previous AGM (H3) 1998.

Sent by and available from Mr Fothergill's Seeds.

Fruit is shiny, orange-yellow and round; average size 3cm diameter, 3cm long; average weight of a single fruit 13.9g. First picked 8 August. Each plant produced an average of 165 ripe fruits, with around 33 fruits per truss. Brix-test result: 9.7% average sugar content.

Good yield of attractive, golden-orange cherry tomatoes. Good, sweet flavour.

Available in one retail catalogue.

The following entries have been recommended for the AGM 🏆, but cannot receive the award until they are available to the public in retail catalogues. It is the responsibility of the sender to inform the Trials Office at Wisley that all queries have been resolved.

SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY:



'Extra Sweetie' Sent by Bakker Brothers.

Fruit is shiny, red and slightly oval; average size 2.5cm diameter, 3cm long; average weight of a single fruit 11.5g. First picked 31 July. Each plant produced an average of 193 ripe fruits, with around 93 fruits per truss. Brix-test result: 8.5% average sugar content.

Good yield. Attractive, shiny, mini-cherry/grape tomatoes, with nice flavour.

Not yet available in retail.



'Pepe' Sent by Takii Europe B V.

Fruit is shiny, red and round; average size 3cm diameter, 3cm long; average weight of a single fruit 15.4g. First picked 31 July. Each plant produced an average of 165 ripe fruits, with around 31 fruits per truss. Brix-test result: 9% average sugar content.

High yield. Excellent flavour.

Not yet available in retail.

H2 = requires unheated glass

Sources of seed for these cultivars vary from year to year. Please see the Royal Horticultural Society's leaflet *Award of Garden Merit* 🏆 *Vegetables* for current stockists.

This leaflet is available on the web at http://www.rhs.org.uk/plants/award_plants.asp

A copy can also be obtained by sending an A4 sized, self addressed envelope with two first class stamps to: 'AGM List', Botany Department, Royal Horticultural Society Garden, Wisley, Woking, Surrey GU23 6QB

Trial Notes

Objectives: The objectives of the trial were to compare and assess a range of cherry and cherry-plum tomato cultivars, grown in the plastic tunnel; to recommend the Award of Garden Merit to outstanding cultivars for garden use and to demonstrate the cultivation of this crop.

Entries: There were 42 entries in the Trial submitted by various seed companies in the UK and Europe.

Cultivation: The ground in the tunnel was conditioned using a crop of Caliente Mustard, which has been specially bred to have significant fumigant properties. This crop was sown in mid October, then watered and cut down in spring 2007 before being rotavated in and sealed under black polythene for two weeks. Once in contact with moist soil the chopped plant material breaks down to release biologically active compounds that help to suppress weeds, root rot, nematodes (eelworm) and *Verticillium* wilt. Once the covers were removed, the soil was raked in ready for planting. Seed was sown under glass on 9 April onto pans of peat-free compost, covered with medium vermiculite and watered in with Revive (a product that contains natural soil

micro-organisms, which encourage soil fertility and healthy plant growth). The seed was germinated at 20°C and, when large enough to handle, pricked out into 9cm square pots of peat-free potting compost. The seedlings were grown on at 15°C in a greenhouse where a biological control programme was used to combat aphids, white fly and red spider mite.

Six plants of each entry were spaced out in the plastic tunnel on 14 May to await flowering before being planted into the soil on 29 May; 44cm apart in double rows, with 80cm between rows and paths of 120cm wide. A drip irrigation system was installed and, once the first truss started to swell, a regular liquid feed was given through a diluter as necessary. The plants were stopped at 2m / eight or nine trusses.

Judging: The Vegetable Trials Sub-Committee inspected the trial at intervals throughout the growing season. They assessed the plants and tasted the fruits on 9 and 29 August for the Award of Garden Merit [AGM] 🏆.

The Sub-Committee considered the following criteria:

flavour : skin quality : quantity of pips in fruit : uniformity of fruit : shape :
colour : abundance of fruit per plant : earliness : plant habit

Findings: The Sub-Committee inspected the plants in the plastic tunnel, assessing and tasting the fruits. They also studied the cropping records and the results of the brix tests, which analyse and measure the percentage of sugar in a given sample. The flavour of a tomato very much depends upon the balance between sweetness and acidity. The Sub-Committee discussed the criteria for a tomato to be categorised as "cherry". While the generally accepted size was 3.5cm or less in diameter, it was noted that this was quite flexible and may be changed by future EU rulings. It was noted that lower light levels resulting from the wet summer had effected plant growth and the sweetness of the fruit. The plants had been stopped at eight trusses, rather than the usual six, as it was hoped that the weather and light levels would improve in the late summer enabling fruit to ripen for the Autumn Show. The plants did continue to crop well until the 17 October, when the trial was cleared.

Trial Entries:

Awards	Name	Sender
AGM (H2) 2007	'Apero' F ₁	A L Tozer Seeds Ltd
AGM (H2) 2007	'Cherrola' F ₁	John Bertinat Seeds
AGM (H2) 2007	'Favorita' F ₁	Johnsons Seeds
AGM (H2) 2007	'Golden Sweet' F ₁	Thompson & Morgan
AGM (H2) 2007	'Jasper' F ₁	Mr Fothergill's Seeds
AGM (H2) 2007	'Nectar' F ₁	Mr Fothergill's Seeds
AGM (H3) 1998		
AGM (H2) 2007	'Piccolo' F ₁	Pro-Veg Seeds Ltd
AGM (H2) 2007	'Rosada' F ₁	Thompson & Morgan
AGM (H2) 2007	'Sakura' F ₁	Johnsons Seeds
AGM (H2) 2007	'Suncherry Premium' F ₁	A L Tozer Seeds Ltd
AGM (H2) 2007	'Sungold' F ₁	D T Brown
AGM (H2) 2007	'Sunset' F ₁	Mr Fothergill's seeds
AGM (H3) 1998		
AGM (H2) 2007	STA 'Pepe' F ₁	Takii Europe
AGM (H2) 2007	STA 'Extra Sweetie'	Bakker Brothers
AGM (H2) 2004	'Ildi'	Thompson & Morgan

Awards	Name	Sender
AGM (H2) 1993	'Gardener's Delight'	E W King
AGM (H2) 1993	'Gold Nugget'	Thompson & Morgan
AGM (H3) 1998	'Sweet Million' F ₁	Mr Fothergill's Seeds
AGM (H3) 1998	'Sun Baby'	E W King
	'Bambino' F ₁	E W King
	'Black Cherry'	Thompson & Morgan
	'Cascadas' F ₁	Pro-Veg Seeds Ltd
	'Chelsea Mini' F ₁	Mr Fothergill's Seeds
	'Diamante' F ₁	Pro-Veg Seeds Ltd
	'Golden Cherry' F ₁	A L Tozer Seeds Ltd
	'Humdinger'	M Woodfield
	'Idyll'	John Bertinat Seeds
	'Loveheart' Cutie F ₁	Thompson & Morgan
	'Lucciola' F ₁	Olter SRL
	'Mosaico' F ₁	Olter SRL
	'Muscato' F ₁	Pro-Veg Seeds Ltd
	'Naif' F ₁	Olter SRL
	'Olivia' F ₁	Olter SRL
	'Orange Paruche' F ₁	Pro-Veg Seeds Ltd
	'Orange Santa' F ₁	Thompson & Morgan
	PVSL 208 F ₁	Pro-Veg Seeds Ltd
	PVSL 209 F ₁	Pro-Veg Seeds Ltd
	PVSL 210 F ₁	Pro-Veg Seeds Ltd
	'Sapho' F ₁	Pro-Veg Seeds Ltd
	'Supersweet 100' F ₁	Thompson & Morgan
	TZ 0501 F ₁	A L Tozer Seeds Ltd
	'Zucchero' F ₁	Olter SRL

STA = subject to availability

Addresses of Senders

A L Tozer Ltd, Pyports, Downside Bridge Road, Cobham, Surrey KT11 3EH.

www.tozerseedsdirect.com

Bakker Brothers, Oostelÿke Randweg 12, 1723 LH Noord-Scharwoude, Netherlands.

D T Brown & Co, Bury Road, Kentford, Newmarket, Suffolk CB8 7PQ. www.dtbrownseeds.co.uk/

E W King & Co Ltd, Monks Farm, Coggeshall Road, Kelvedon, Essex CO5 9PG.

www.kingsseeds.com

John Bertinat Seeds Ltd, Bankfield House, 39 Bure Way, Aylsham, Norfolk NR11 6HL.

Johnsons Seeds, Gazeley Road, Kentford, Newmarket, Suffolk CB8 7QB. www.johnsons-seeds.com

Mr Fothergill's Seeds, Gazeley Road, Kentford, Newmarket, Suffolk CB8 7QB. www.fothergills.co.uk

M Woodfield, c/o The Trials office, RHS Garden Wisley, Woking, Surrey GU23 6QB.

Olter Srl, Corso Venezia, 93, 14100 Asti, Italy.

Pro-Veg Seeds Ltd, 6 Shingay Lane, Sawston, Cambridge CB2 4SS.

Takii Europe B V, Hoofdweg 19, 1424 PC de Kwakel, Netherlands.

Thompson & Morgan Ltd, Poplar Lane, Ipswich, Suffolk IP8 3BU. www.thompson-morgan.com

Source: Trials Office, The Royal Horticultural Society Garden, Wisley, Woking, Surrey
GU23 6QB

e-mail: trials@rhs.org.uk.

More information about RHS Trials and other colour illustrated reports can be found on the
RHS Website : <http://www.rhs.org.uk/plants/awards2007.asp>