

Production Guide

NOTES:

1. Farmer hires tractor services & transportation.
2. Adjust land preparation activities and costs depending on the existing status of the land.
3. Soil test must be done before cultivation to determine the pH and nutrient requirements.
4. One seedling tray contains 128 plants.
5. Price of seedlings vary depending on the variety from \$55 - \$85/ tray. Price of \$70 used in the model.
6. All agro chemicals must be used in the rates as recommended by the manufacturers.
7. Protective wear is essential when applying all agro chemicals.

This Guide is based on a model that estimates the production cost for tomatoes. The model herein uses expenses incurred from existing production practices. It assumes that users have an appropriate level of technical feasibility and managerial ability. Benchmarks have been defined and are intended to guide project planning and evaluation.

TOMATO

Acreage (ha)	1
Time of planting	Year round
Method of planting	Transplanting
Seedling purchase	Commercial nursery
Plant spacing	Staked - 30-60 cm x 90 - 120 cm Not staked - 45- 90cm x 120cm
Plant density	17,500 - 20,000 plants/ha
Topography	Flat
Soil type	Well-drained clays, clay loams and sandy loams
Soil pH	6 - 6.5
Irrigation	Sprinkler system
Stakes	Teak
Life span of stakes	10 - 16 Crops
Time to maturity	12 weeks
Crop duration	16 weeks
Yield - kg/ha	25,000 - 30,000
Losses	20%
Marketable yield (kg)	24,000
Market price/kg	(Wholesale) (Medium) \$10.45
Labour cost/ man day	\$200.00

MAJOR PESTS & DISEASES	CHEMICAL SOLUTION
White flies	Systemic insecticide
Pin worms , Tomato Fruit worm	Contact insecticide
Mites	Miticide
Nematodes	Nematicide
Bacterial Leaf Spot	Systemic fungicide
Grey Leaf Spot, Early Blight,	Fungicide
Cercospora Leaf Spot	Fungicide
Anthracnose	Soil fungicide

REFERENCES:

- Prices of chemicals were derived from an average of prices from three (3) different suppliers located in North, Central and South Trinidad.
- Chemicals used must be recommended by Agronomists in the MALMR.
- YWP Enterprise Management Article on Solanaceous Crops provided technical information for the model.
- Yield information was verified by the Agronomist at the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Marine Resources - CENTENO.
- Market price was obtained from NAMDEVCO - average wholesale price for a three year period 2006- 2008.

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MAIN VARIETIES

Dry Season:

Rio Grande, Rio Fuego, Calypso, Floradade Heatmaster, Heatwave, Gemster, Gempride, Gempear, Nema 1400, Gempack.

Rainy Season:

Kada, Trinity Pride, Early Cascade, Heatmaster, Gempride, Gempear, Hybrid 6



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VARIABLE COSTS

ACTIVITY	UNIT	COST/UNIT	NO. OF UNITS	TOTAL COST
LAND PREPARATION				
Brush cut	ha	\$1,250.00	1	\$1,250
Rotorvate - twice	ha	\$2,500.00	2	\$5,000
Drainage establishment	ha	\$850.00	1	\$850
Soil treatment (soil fungicide)	kg	\$675.00	0.5	\$338
Labour	man days	\$200.00	10	\$2,000
PLANTING/TRANSPLANTING				
Seedling purchase	trays	\$70.00	155	\$10,850
Stakes	each	\$1.50	20,000	\$30,000
Twine	250g	\$7.29	40	\$292
Labour	man days	\$200.00	40	\$8,000
FERTILIZING				
Fertilizers : 12:12:17 +2	kg	\$10.00	405	\$4,050
Fersan 12:24:12	kg	\$10.98	500	\$5,490
10:52:10	kg	\$54.56	0.5	\$27
Nutrex	kg	\$25.70	0.5	\$13
Calcium Nitrate	kg	\$8.69	270	\$2,346
Muriate of Potash	kg	\$8.56	7	\$60
Manure	truck load	\$1,800.00	3	\$5,400
Labour	man days	\$200.00	60	\$12,000
WEED CONTROL				
Selective herbicide	kg	\$371.27	1	\$371
Systemic herbicide	litre	\$84.69	1	\$85
Contact herbicide	litre	\$230.00	1	\$230
Pre-emergent herbicide	litre	\$260.71	2	\$521
Labour	man days	\$200.00	30	\$6,000
PEST & DISEASE CONTROL				
<i>Fungicides :</i>				
Broad spectrum fungicide	kg	\$92.50	10	\$925
Fungicide/ bactericide	kg	\$120.46	20	\$2,409
Contact fungicide	kg	\$93.43	2	\$187
Soil fungicide	kg	\$200.40	1	\$200
<i>Insecticides :</i>				
Contact insecticide	kg	\$275.50	2	\$551
Miticide/ insecticide	litre	\$755.92	4	\$3,024
Miticide	litre	\$380.00	2	\$760
Systemic insecticide	litre	\$66.00	1	\$66
Nematicide	litre	\$126.76	1	\$127
Labour	man days	\$200.00	30	\$6,000
HARVESTING				
Labour	man days	\$200.00	84	\$16,800
Removal of stakes	man days	\$200.00	5	\$1,000
Packing for market	man days	\$200.00	36	\$7,200
TRANSPORTATION				
Fertilizer	trip	\$250.00	1	\$250
Farm Produce	bags	\$10.00	529	\$5,286
TOTAL VARIABLE COST				\$139,958
GROSS RETURNS	kg	\$10.45	24,000	\$250,800
GROSS MARGIN				\$110,842