Heirloom Tomatoes

Michael Bomford
and Brian Geier
Heirlooms…
More than Tomatoes

- Vegetables
- Fruit
- Grain
- Livestock
Heirloom Varieties

- Passed down in a family / region through several generations
- Open pollinated
- Often associated with small family farms
- Many lost as farms grow
Why grow heirlooms?

• Historical interest
• Preserve diverse gene pool for future generations
• Locally adapted
  – Pest/disease resistance
  – Suited to local climate/soil
• Distinctive, Unusual
  – Flavor
  – Appearance
• Consumer demand
Seed Sources

• Family
• Friends
• Seed Savers Exchanges
  – Seed Savers Exchange
  – Appalachian Heirloom Seed Conservancy
• Seed Catalogs
  – Gary Ibsen’s Tomato Fest lists 600 varieties
  – Seed Savers Exchange funds its nonprofit with a catalog. 80 tomato varieties, most organic.
Tomato

**Tomato, Amish Paste**
Amish Paste  
Catalog # 107  
[Choose Size]

**Tomato, Aunt Ruby's Green**
Aunt Ruby's German Green  
Catalog # 249  
[Choose Size]

**Tomato, Austin's Red Pear OG**
Austin's Red Pear  
Catalog # 1227  
[Choose Size]

**Tomato, Beam's Yellow Pear**
Beam's Yellow Pear  
Catalog # 661  
[Choose Size]

**Tomato, Black from Tula**
Black from Tula  
Catalog # 251  
[Choose Size]

**Tomato, Black Krim**
Black Krim  
Catalog # 662  
[Choose Size]
Fayette Co. # 150

Heirloom Tomatoes

* 100% Chemical Free
Heirloom Seed-Saving

“Preserving Appalachia’s Edible Heritage”

This plot demonstrates small-scale seed-saving techniques for heirloom vegetables. Distances and barriers between varieties of the same crop discourage cross-pollination and ensure pure seed strains. Heritage varieties of many vegetables have been preserved in seed gardens like this one for hundreds of years and passed on from gardener to gardener.

Many areas of Appalachia have produced their own unique varieties of vegetables over many years of seed-saving and sharing. The Appalachian Heirloom Seed Conservancy is dedicated to preserving these varieties and their history, and has provided most of the seed saved in this project. Half of the seed collected is for seed production, and the other half is for saving.
“Depps Pink Firefly” Tomato

This potato-leaf, indeterminate variety is a family heirloom, ca. 1890, from Glasgow, Kentucky, and yields very large, reddish-pink fruits with flecking.

Barren County
Kentucky

Seed provided by the Appalachian Heirloom Seed Conservancy.
Pike County Heirloom Tomato

This regular leaf, indeterminate variety yields 8-12 ounce pink fruit, and was collected from Pike County, Kentucky.

Pike County, Kentucky

Seed provided by the Appalachian Heirloom Seed Conservancy.