

# RIO GRANDE TOMATO CROP MANAGEMENT

## *(Lycopersicon esculentum)*

### 1.1. Site Selection



- Choose an area with easy access, good exposure, preferably next to a stream, not liable to flooding, and preferably with a sandy clay soil.
- Ensure that within the previous two to three years, another Solanaceae (tomato, pepper potato and tobacco) has not been grown on the plot.

### 1.2. Nursery

- It must be located near the transplantation site
- Prepare well elevated 1m×1.5m boards. Incorporate 3 to 4 kg of well-decomposed manure per m<sup>2</sup> that is 15 to 20 kg per board.
- For very poor soils to apply 1 kg of 20-10-10 per board.
- The surface area of the nursery for transplanting one hectare of plantation is 200m<sup>2</sup>.
- Water the boards generously before sowing. Use a stick to make remote LPs 25 to 30 cm apart. Mix the seeds with fine sand and spread carefully in the LPs. The quantities of Rio Grande Tomato seed required is 2gr per m<sup>2</sup> of nursery and 400 grams for a hectare of plantation.
- Again at the 2 leaf stage, spray with TEMAX which is a foliar fertilizer (20-20-20) NPK
- Take care to treat with a mixture of CROPMAX and PYRINEX QUICK with respective doses of 25 and 40 ml per spray in the nursery.

### 1.3. The Plantation

- Clean the intended planting area with the total herbicide **TAIFUN 360 SL** or **ZOOMER 360/30 SC** at a dose of 2 to 4 l / ha
- Transplantation takes place 3-4 weeks after sowing in nursery.
- Water the nursery bed before transplanting and use a shovel spade to remove the plants.
- Transplanting is preferably done in cool weather in the afternoon.
- Choose robust and healthy plants.
- Incorporate well-decomposed manure in each planting hole.
- Transplant at spacing of 80 to 100 cm between rows and 0.5 m on the line being a crop density of 20,000 to 25,000 plants per hectare.
- 10-15 days after transplanting, apply 400 kg of special gardening fertilizer (12-14-19-5MgO) per hectare. As from fruit setting, make 2 applications of **TEMAX** and **CROPMAX** (50gr of **TEMAX** and 20 ml of **CROPMAX** for 15 ml of water).
- Remove leaves that touch the ground and gourds.

- The harvest comes from two months after planting and can last 1-2 months depending on the availability of soil water.

**2. Principal Enemies.** (see table)

<b>Diseases and Enemies</b>	<b>Damage or Symptoms</b>	<b>Products</b>	<b>Dose per 15 l of water</b>	<b>Treatment Method</b>	<b>Period Before Harvesting</b>
Weeds	Yellowing of plants due to competition	<b>AGIL 100 EC</b>	1 Tomato tin	Spray only the weeds 6 weeks after transplanting	7 DAYS
Early Blight	-Occurrence at the crown and brown spots on stem -Present on older leaves in the form of round brown spots, and surrounded by a yellowish halo.	<b>SHAVIT F 71.5WP et MASTER COP</b>	50ml of master cop and 80g of SHAVIT F	Alternate application of MASTER COP and SHAVIT F once a week	7 DAYS
Mildew	Presence of angular spots with white down on the underside of leaves. Stems and fruits are also attacked	<b>MASTER COP</b>	50ml of master cop and 80g of SHAVIT F	Alternate application of MASTER COP and SHAVIT F once a week	7 DAYS
Night Worm	Chews on the leaves, cutting the flower bouquets and pierces the fruit that turns yellow and falls	<b>PYRINEX QUICK 256EC</b>	80ml	Alternate application of MASTER COP and SHAVIT F once a week	7 DAYS
White Flies	The attacked leaves curl and become brighter. Growth is retarded.	<b>PYRINEX QUICK 256EC</b>	80 ml	Alternate application of MASTER COP and SHAVIT F once a week	7 DAYS
Nematodes	The roots are scabbed and twisted. slower growth and reduced fruit setting	<b>COUNTER</b>	10g /pocket	Treat around each plant or in packages before transplanting	-