# **Ace Tomatoes (Hybrid)**

#### **Growth Habit:**

 Ace tomatoes are a determinate variety, meaning they grow to a compact height and produce all their fruit within a short window of time.

#### **Best Uses:**

 Ace tomatoes are great for canning, sauces, and paste due to their low moisture content and rich flavor.

### **Growing Information:**

- Ace tomatoes prefer full sun and well-draining soil with a pH of 6.0 to 6.8.
- Start seeds indoors 6 to 8 weeks before your last frost date, and transplant seedlings outdoors after hardening off.
- Space plants 18 to 24 inches apart, and support the vines with stakes or cages.

#### **Maintenance Information:**

- Prune suckers (new growth between the main stem and leaf branches) to encourage fruit production and prevent the plant from becoming too bushy.
- Water consistently, providing about 1 to 2 inches of water per week.

## **Pest Management:**

- Watch for common tomato pests like aphids, whiteflies, and spider mites.
- Check for signs of fungal diseases like early blight or late blight, and remove infected leaves promptly.

## **Companion Plants:**

- Good companion plants for Ace tomatoes include basil, marigolds, and nasturtiums, which help repel pests.
- Avoid planting tomatoes near fennel, potatoes, or other members of the nightshade family.