

# **Goliath Tomatoes (Heirloom)**

**Growth Habit:** Indeterminate, tall and vining, reaching up to 8 to 12 feet in height. Requires a long growing season (80 to 90 days) and is suitable for warmer climates.

**Best Uses:** Fresh eating, slicing, sandwiches, and cooking. Goliath tomatoes are known for their large size (1 to 2 pounds each), sweet flavor, and juicy texture.

## **Growing Information:**

- Full sun
- Well-draining soil with a pH of 6.0 to 6.8
- Start seeds indoors 6 to 8 weeks before the last frost
- Transplant seedlings outdoors after hardening off
- Space plants 24 to 36 inches apart
- Provide strong support for vines (e.g., tomato cages or trellises)

## **Maintenance Information:**

- Prune suckers and lower leaves to encourage fruit production and maintain plant structure
- Water consistently, providing 1 to 2 inches of water per week
- Fertilize with a balanced tomato fertilizer every 3 to 4 weeks

## **Pest Management:**

- Monitor for common tomato pests like aphids, whiteflies, and spider mites. Goliath tomatoes can be susceptible to fungal diseases like early blight and late blight, so check for signs of infection and remove any affected leaves promptly.

## **Companion Plants:**

- Good companion plants for Goliath tomatoes include basil, marigolds, and nasturtiums, which help repel pests and promote beneficial insects.
- Avoid planting tomatoes near fennel, potatoes, or other members of the nightshade family to prevent disease and pests from spreading.