



I hope everyone had a good , or at least decent summer, despite the droughts, wild fires and more! I'm excited that our group is expanding further and Trinette, Susan and I want to welcome the new members to our group!

So what have you been growing?

I've always had the attitude that gardening can be a great way to experiment! Even when things don't go well, it's information gained. Tomatoes and cucumbers have been two of the plants, I really wanted to have success with. So after trying a few varieties, these are seeds that have worked best for me.

The first is the RED ROBIN cherry tomato seeds. I ordered them from West Coast seeds and I managed to grow this bush variety for almost a year! The taste was incredible and I kept things under control by pruning often. I learned that using an oscillating fan behind my tower, I didn't need to hand pollinate. What could be easier?

I tried a couple of cucumbers without success and then a grower in BC suggested the CORENTINE cucumber. It's a smaller variety and matures in about 6 weeks. Bonus....it does not require any hand pollinating.

West Coast Seeds Cherry Tomatoes » Red Robin

Red Robin

★★★★★ 6 Reviews



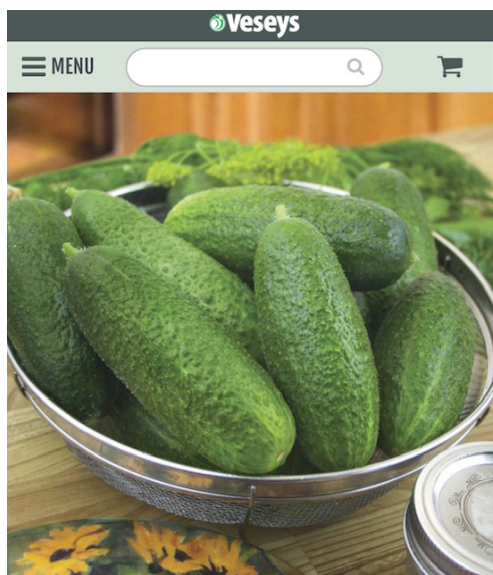
Description:

Red Robin tomato seeds produce hardy, compact dwarf plants that deliver high yields of delicious cherry tomatoes. Red Robin tomato plants are easy to grow, and best suited for containers whether located indoors or outdoors. While Red Robin tomato plants will deliver the highest yields in outside containers, plants will set fruit in lower light indoor conditions and still deliver moderate yields of sweet cherry tomatoes.

Typically 20-30 cm (8-12") tall, Red Robin tomato plants make an attractive, ornamental addition to any garden patio, window or balcony. Round scarlet cherry tomatoes 2.5 -4 cm (1-1 1/2") in diameter set in tight clusters create a striking contrast with dark green potato leaves.

Compact determinate (bush)

Matures in 50-55 days. (Open-pollinated seeds)



Corentine Cucumber

\$4.25

Extra early European gherkin type. This hybrid is a heavy producer of pickling sized 4-6-inch, fruit with dark green skins, short spines and tasty crisp flesh. Parthenocarpic so needs no cross-pollination and can be grown under row covers right up to harvest for even earlier yields. Exceptional disease resistance. Maturity is 45 days.

10 top tips for growing your Tower Garden

1. Clean your pump out regularly

.....meaning every month or so.

It will only take you a few minutes and will extend the lifetime of your pump.

UNPLUG THE PUMP

REACH INSIDE THE RESERVOIR AND GRAB THE PUMP, PULL THE COVER OFF AND REMOVE ANY ROOTS AND DEGREE, RINSE THE COVER UNDER THE TAP & PUT THE PUMP BACK TOGETHER AND RETURN TO THE BOTTOM OF THE RESERVOIR

REMEMBER TO PLUG IT BACK IN!!

2. Often concerns come up about algae. It

is a naturally occurring organism which is the result of exposing water containing minerals to sunlight. It isn't harmful in small amounts. So what can you do to reduce algae? The best method is prevention. If you keep sunlight out of your tower garden, i.e.

keep the lids closed and all openings sealed, you can prevent algae from growing. You can remove it in the system with a brush or hydrogen peroxide solution. (3ml of 3% H₂O₂ per gallon of solution)

3. When your seedlings first go into the

TG, be sure your lights are inside the cage.

This way you can pull them 2 to 4 inches from the plants. This will get them growing much faster and prevent them from "stretching" towards the light.

4. ROOTScheck to see if any long roots are hanging into the reservoir or near the pump. If so reach inside the reservoir and gently tear these away. This will prevent them from plugging the pump and "sucking" up more water than needed!

5. When adding in your tonics.....remember to shake the bottle first to mix. Then add in A and mix with a spoon and then B and mix again!

6. Plants need room to "breathe" to efficiently absorb nutrients and grow. And poor air circulation puts your plants at greater risk for **powdery mildew and other plant diseases**. Consider running a small fan to keep the air moving around your plants. Pruning or thinning plants will also help improve air circulation.

7. Regularly examine your plants for holes in leaves, bugs, fungi... basically anything that shouldn't be there. And if you find a problem, handle as soon as possible, especially when it comes to pests. Once established, bad bugs thrive and are hard to eradicate since they have no natural predators indoors.

8. Replace plants when they bolt.

In my experience, plants have longer life cycles indoors compared to out. (I actually harvested from the same kale and basil plants for a solid six months.) But occasionally, your greens and herbs will **flower and produce seeds**. And that usually means they're finished growing. So pull 'em out and start over (unless you're **planning to save seeds**).

9 If your power goes out.....the timer on your pump will default to the O (outside) setting. So you will need to reset to I (indoor). Otherwise you'll be overwatering.

SIGNS OF BOLTED LETTUCE



10. Once your seedlings are well on their way.....the easiest way to keep track of how much tonics to replace islet the water level get down half way and then add 200 mls of A and B. (Which is one of the measuring cups provided.....up to the top line)

How Many ml of Mineral Blend do I Add?

Brand New Seedlings	1/2 Strength	10ml of each A and B per Gallon of water
Replenishing Temperatures below 85	Regular Strength	20ml of each A and B per Gallon of water
Replenishing Temperatures between 85 and 100	1/2 Strength	10ml of each A and B per Gallon of water
Replenishing Temperatures above 100	1/4 Strength	5ml of each A and B per Gallon of water

LASTLY..... Please do not hesitate to contact me by email.....fishinginff@hotmail.com or text 204-271-3279 should you require help with trouble shooting or equipment failure.

Also if you use Facebook I can be found there at this link....

<https://www.facebook.com/suzanne.madden.14>

AND.....did you know we have a group on Facebook? Please join us NACC Tower₃ Garden Program

Suzanne Daigle