

B-67 Performance of some new tomato varieties in mid country wet zone

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Tomato is a high priced vegetable that is in demand throughout the year. In Sri Lanka, tomato production is faced with many problems. One of the major constraints is the damage caused by Bacterial Wilt. Therefore, the tomato crop improvement work at HORDI, is directed towards the development of varieties having high yield potential (>20 t/ha), Bacterial Wilt resistance and acceptable fruit quality.

In this study, 7 elite lines of T244/Roma cross (66-2-1,65-5-2,23-11-6, 146-6-10,148-3-11,44-4-2, 7-1-10) together with the recommended variety T245 were tested at Gannoruwa during Maha 95/96. Randomized Complete Block Design was used with 3 replicates. The 18-day old seedlings were planted in 2.4 x 3.5m plots with a spacing of 50 x 80 cm and single seedling per hill. The cultural practices and fertilizer applications were made according to Department recommendations.

The marketable yield data of some of these lines (65-5-2 and 146-6-10) originating from T244/Roma cross gave significantly superior yields than all the other entries.

None of the entries were inferior in yields to T245. All the tested entries showed resistance to Bacterial Wilt (BW). The fruit quality data showed that the lines 66-2-1,65-5-2,23-11-6,44-4-2 and 148-3-11 are suitable for processing purposes.

Based on yield potential, BW reaction and fruit quality the lines 66-2-1,65-5-2,23-11-6,44-4-2,148-3-11 and 146-6-10 could be considered as promising entries for National Co-ordinated Varietal Trials.