

EMPRESS THE PURPLE TOMATO™

PLUGS & LINERS



LINER

51 STRIP TRAY

7 Week Lead Time

Available Week 5 - 17, 2026

Week of January 26th, 2026

Recommended Pot Size: 1 Gallon

Tag Included

PLUG

160 HD TRAY

7 Week Lead Time

Available Week 5 - 17, 2026

Week of January 26th, 2026

Recommended Pot Size: 1 Gallon

Tag Included

TAG

X-LARGE XL TAG

Included with Plug/Liner (1:1)

Branded Tag with Care Instructions and QR Code.

Ships two weeks before plugs/liners
Merchandising Kits for Box Stores and IGCs



RAKER - ROBERTA'S

Packed with antioxidants. Twice the shelf life of red tomatoes.

WWW.RAKER.COM | WWW.NORFOLKHEALTHYPRODUCE.COM





EMPRESS

THE PURPLE TOMATO™

Packed with antioxidants. Twice the shelf life of red tomatoes.

The world's first truly purple tomato. A bold fusion of science and flavor. With its deep violet skin, vibrant interior, and elevated antioxidants, Empress Purple Tomato™ delivers exceptional taste and nutrition in every bite.

PREORDER

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FEATURES

- Vivid deep-purple color from skin through to flesh.
- Loaded with anthocyanins (the same antioxidants found in blueberries and eggplant) for added nutritional appeal
- Cherry-size tomatoes
- DOUBLE the shelf-life of red tomatoes.
- 70 days to maturity
- Vigorous growth and high yield.
- Greenlit by U.S. regulators for safety and commercial use.
- POP Kits & Marketing Material available January 2026



Questions? Contact Us!

Raker Roberta's
10371 Rainey Rd. Litchfield, MI 49252

www.raker.com
CustomerService@raker.com
P: 514-542-4541

How to order

- 51 Liner Strip Trays and 160 HD Plug Trays can be purchased through all major broker partners.
- Available in the USA and Canada
- Some restrictions may apply



NORFOLK
HEALTHY PRODUCE



EMPRESS

THE PURPLE TOMATO™

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CULTURE SHEET

FINISHED PRODUCTION CULTURE

Input form: 160 High Density Plug; 51 Liner

- Plant soon after receiving. Holding plugs for an extended time in starter trays can cause root bounding, resulting in slower establishment. Plant deeply, up to first set of true leaves.

Temperature Targets

- Tomatoes are very responsive to temperature levels.
- Base temperature should not fall below 50 degrees. Avoid temperatures over 75 degrees.
- Use neutral to negative DIF (Daytime temperature-Nighttime temperature) to encourage compact growth. Early morning cool-air pulse is also helpful for toning the plants. Positive DIF will result in more stretched growth.

Lighting Requirements

- High light intensity produces the highest quality tomato plants. Daily Light Integral target of 14-20+
- Low light levels lead to leggier plants

Substrate Selection

- Tomatoes will thrive in soilless mixes on the market for vegetable and annual production
- Media pH target of 5.6-6.2

Moisture Management

- Proper moisture management is a useful tool in controlling tomato growth
- Pots kept too wet for too long will result in soft, stretched growth as well as increasing opportunity for bacterial and fungal disease to establish
- On moisture level of 1-5 (5=Saturated, 1=Driest) alternate between level 2 and 3

Fertilization

- Like moisture management, fertilization can also be used to manipulate plant growth
- Use a nitrate form of nitrogen such as 13-2-13, 15-0-15 or 15-5-15 for better-toned plants
- One or two applications of fertilizer at 150 ppm should be sufficient
- Avoid ammonium and high phosphorus fertilizers which promote lush and stretched growth

Scheduling

- Tomato Purple Empress is a fast crop like most other indeterminate cherry types
- A large size pot is recommended for selling at retail. One Gallon or larger. A gallon will finish from a R2 Young Plant in 3 to 5 weeks.



CULTURE SHEET

Plugs & Liners

CONSUMER TIPS

Location and Planting

- Like all tomatoes, Empress thrives in full sun
- Plant in good quality garden soil that is rich in organic matter
- Tomatoes are heat loving plants. Wait until all danger of frost is passed and soil is warming up before planting outdoors.
- Tomatoes benefit from planting deeply. Place in hole with the first set of leaves just above soil level. Tomatoes will grow additional roots along the stem below soil level.

Care

- To establish plants, water thoroughly and deeply, but infrequently. As plants become older, supplement natural rainfall during dry periods.
- It is best to water early in the day. Water at the base of the plant along the soil. Try and keep the foliage dry. Wet leaves going into the night can cause disease.
- Feed with a balanced vegetable fertilizer according to the directions.

Special Tips

- Retail Recommendation: 1 gallon pot alongside other high end specialty tomatoes such as grafted varieties.
- Purple Empress is an indeterminate, highly vigorous plant
- Plants should be caged, staked, or trellised for support
- Pruning is helpful to maintain a healthy plant and maximize fruit production. Pinching off suckers diverts more energy and airflow to the plant. Care should be given in making clean cuts to minimize wounds that are susceptible to pests and disease. Reference online tutorials for guidance.
- Be patient with ripening fruit. Purple Empress will color up before it's fully ripe. Ripe tomatoes will be somewhat soft pull apart easily from the stem.
- PGR information: Uniconazole (Sumagic) is labeled for use on tomatoes, but limited to a total of 10 ppm. Raker uses Sumagic and will use up the allotted 10 parts PGR before it gets further into the supply chain.

Helpful Links

- Tips for Growing Purple Tomatoes™: www.norfolkhealthyproduce.com
- Ball Tech | Become the King or Queen of Tomato Production: [YouTube Video](#)



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