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TROPICAL PLANT CATALOG

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Cyphomandra crassicaulis, *Cyphomandra betacea*, *Solanum betaceum* ,
Solanum crassifolium

Family: Solanaceae

Tamarillo, Tree Tomato, Tomato Arbol

Origin: Andes mountain of Peru



An evergreen tree growing to 10-15 ft by 10-12 ft at a fast rate. It is hardy to zone 9 and is frost tender. The plant is self-fertile: the scented flowers are hermaphrodite (have both male and female organs) and are pollinated by insects. Tree Tomato performs best at medium to high elevations. It is more popular in the Asiatic Tropics, New Zealand, and the Andean region of South America than in the Caribbean region. Trunk diameter is about 4 inches (10 cm). The large cordate-ovate leaves have a pungent smell. Plants have a shallow spreading root system and resent surface hoeing, they are best given a good mulch. The small, pinkish, fragrant flowers are produced in April or May in short axillary cymes near the ends of the branches. 2-3" fruit is eaten raw or cooked. The flavour can vary considerably from tree to tree, the best forms are juicy and sub-acid, they are eaten out of hand, added to salads, used in preserves, jams, jellies etc. The mature fruits resemble a hen's egg in size and shape and, in the West Indies, ripen from October to January. The 2-carpeled fruits are orange, red, or purple, depending on the variety. Internally the fruit consists of a meaty mesocarp and tomatolike seeds imbedded in a watery pulp. In flavor it is subacid and is generally considered to resemble the garden tomato (*Lycopersicon esculentum* Mill.). The fruit is most commonly stewed to form a conserve. Unlike the garden tomato, the seeds and skin of the tree tomato should be removed before cooking. The unripe fruit is slightly toxic. The seedlings grow rapidly and generally produce the second year. Plants are subject to attacks by red spider mites, susceptible to nematodes.



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- [Solanum atropurpureum](#) (Malevolence, Purple Devil)
- [Solanum bonariense](#), [Solanum grandiflorum](#) (Granadillo)
- [Solanum capsicastrum](#) (False Jerusalem Cherry, Winter Cherry, Christmas Cherry)
- [Solanum conocarpum](#) (Marron Bacoba)
- [Solanum diphyllum](#) (Twoleaf nightshade)
- [Solanum elaeagnifolium](#) (Healing-leaf Tree)
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2667 Cyphomandra betacea White Egg - seeds

Light-colored fruit, greenish, cream to off-white.
 Tamarillo, or Tree Tomato is a small, attractive, half-woody, evergreen or partially deciduous, shrub or small tree. The fruits are juicy and sub-acid, they are eaten out of hand, added to salads, used in preserves, jams, jellies etc. The mature fruits resemble a hen's egg in size and shape and, in the West Indies, ripen from October to January. The seedlings grow rapidly and generally produce the second year. Will grow indoors with warmth and bright light.
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Per pack: 6 seeds

In stock

\$2.95

Qty:



2668 Cyphomandra betacea, Tamarillo - seeds

Tamarillo, or Tree Tomato is a small, attractive, half-woody, evergreen or partially deciduous, shrub or small tree. The fruits are juicy and sub-acid, they are eaten out of hand, added to salads, used in preserves, jams, jellies etc. The mature fruits resemble a hen's egg in size and shape and, in the West Indies, ripen from October to January. The seedlings grow rapidly and generally produce the second year. Will grow indoors with warmth and bright light.
 Barely cover the seeds using a well draining soil mixture. Keep warm, damp and in bright light.
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Per pack: 6 seeds

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