

GARDENING TIP

By Cordell Vail

LIMITING THE HEIGHT OF YOUR TOMATOE PLANTS WILL INCREASE YOUR YIELD

If you let tomato plants just grow, they can go up to 8 feet high. But if you limit the height then more energy goes into tomato production and less into making new foliage.

These plants started out as little normal plants



But they grew unrestricted over 8 feet tall



I pinch mine off when they get to 5 feet and make them put all their effort into making tomatoes and don't let any more suckers grow out of the branches between the leaf stem either.

After they are 5 feet I just keep pinching off any new growth after it gets past the tomato part



I let it grow until there are little tomatoes on it, then I save the little tomatoes so they will still make a tomato but pinch off the growth right after the little tomato stem.



Then later all you have are tomatoes on that stem with no leaves



So the plant does not keep growing higher, but produces tomatoes on each one of the suckers that did come out from the fork where the leaf is. (Don't let them keep growing or they will try to make a whole new tomato plant.

Also after about the 15th of August, I don't let any new tomatoes even start because there will not be time for them to get ripe. So then I just pinch off everything that starts new.