

## *Tomatoes in the Florida Garden*

Container gardening is a great choice for people who live in condos and apartments with limited gardening space, and now the best time of the year to plant tomatoes. Choose a 5 gallon size container with plenty of drainage holes. Tomatoes have large root systems, which must be accommodated by the large pot. Fill the container with professional potting soil and plant a University of Florida recommended tomato variety that will produce well. Fertilize every two weeks with a water soluble plant food that contains secondary elements, as calcium. It will take approximately 90 days from seed start to harvest.

- 'Florida Basket' — A dwarf tomato for hanging baskets. Produces 1-inch fruit or 6-inch plant.
- 'Floragold Basket' — Grow 3 plants in a 12-inch hanging basket to produce lots of yellow cherry-size fruits.
- 'Tiny Tim' — Round, red 3/4 inch fruit on 18-inch vine.
- 'Micro-Tom' — an extremely dwarf type for 4-inch pots.
- 'Sweet 100' — Big plant, small fruit in clusters.

For complete information growing tomatoes access the University of Florida publication 'Tomatoes in the Florida Garden' at:

<http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/vh028>



Figure 1 Master Gardener Volunteer Adriana Gregory places veggies into the Mounts Botanical Garden Vegetable Demonstration Area. 11/6/12