

QUICK CROP TOMATOES IN NEW JERSEY

by Robert W. Langlois, County Agricultural Agent,
Blackwood, New Jersey

New Jersey vegetable growers are producing quick crop tomatoes in plastic greenhouses. The term quick crop means the season is condensed and the yield per acre is increased. This is done by planting a tomato plant every square foot, tying it to a 4-foot

stake, training it to one stem and pinching the plant above the second or third cluster.

Tomatoes transplanted in March produce 2.5 pounds of fruit per plant in May and June. Tomatoes planted in late April produce 2.0 pounds per plant in June and early July. The varieties Jet Star and KC 1327 do well under this culture.

Most plastic greenhouses are 28 x 96 feet and are covered with two layers of polyethylene plastic separated by air. The floor is plastic covered and the plants are watered by the Chapin Drip-Hose.