

NORTH CAROLINA AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE  
NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY  
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA

NOTICE OF NAMING AND RELEASE OF 'MOUNTAIN PRIDE' TOMATO

The North Carolina Agricultural Research Service announces the development and naming of a new fresh market tomato cultivar 'Mountain Pride'.

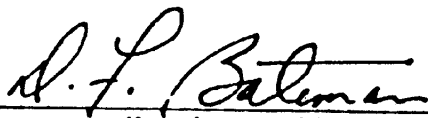
'Mountain Pride' is an F<sub>1</sub> hybrid resulting from the cross 'Cherokee' x NC50-7. Both parents were developed in the North Carolina fresh market tomato breeding program and are being released concurrently with 'Mountain Pride'. 'Mountain Pride' has been tested throughout North Carolina since 1979 as NC7984.

Fruit of 'Mountain Pride' are deep oblate to flattened globe with small to medium blossom scars. Shoulders are relatively smooth and have uniform green color (u gene). Season of maturity is similar to 'Flora-Dade'. Fruit finish is very glossy, and color develops to a uniform deep red. Fruit are firm at the ripe stage, similar to 'Flora-Dade' and NC50-7, and have very good shelf life. Internal fruit color and structure are good. Flavor is somewhat acid and similar to that of 'Cherokee' and 'Walter'. Fruit pedicels are jointed. Vine type is strong determinate, taller growing than 'Walter' and 'Flora-Dade' when staked and pruned. Foliage is heavy with broad, dark green leaflets. Un-staked plants have a compact, bushy growth habit with excellent foliage cover. 'Mountain Pride' is suitable for both ground and stake production.

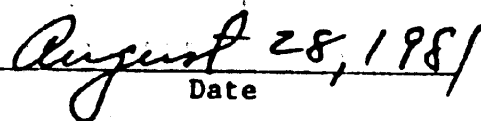
'Mountain Pride' is resistant to races 1 and 2 (I, I-2 genes) of Fusarium oxysporum f. sp. lycopersici (Fusarium wilt) and to race 1 (Ve gene) of Verticillium dahliae (Verticillium wilt). It is resistant to the fruit disorders graywall, cracking, and black shoulder.

'Mountain Pride' has produced total yields similar to the standard cultivar 'Flora-Dade' in North Carolina. Yield of U.S. Combination Grade fruit of 'Mountain Pride' exceeded 'Flora-Dade' by 31% in 1979 and by 58% in 1980. 'Mountain Pride' averaged 55% extra-large fruit (>3 in. diameter) compared to 25% extra-large for 'Flora-Dade' during 1979 and 1980.

Breeder seed of the parent lines 'Cherokee' and NC50-7 will be maintained by the North Carolina Agricultural Research Service and will be made available to the North Carolina Foundation Seed Producers, Inc., for distribution. Seed will be available from commercial seed companies in 1982. Proposed release date is August 28, 1981.



Director, North Carolina Agricultural  
Research Service, Raleigh, N.C.



Date