## **Tomato: Preserve It**



## **Dried Plum (Roma) Tomatoes**

**Preparation:** Cut smaller tomatoes lengthwise into 8 wedges; cut larger ones into 12 wedges.

**Drying:** Place skin side down on mesh drying trays. Dry at 130°F.

Time: 20 to 24 hours.

**Doneness test:** Wedges should feel dry, be just slightly pliable with no sign of moisture inside when broken open.

- Beefsteak-style tomatoes and juice cherry tomatoes have a lot of moisture, so there's very little tomato – and thus very little flavor – left after drying. Plum (Roma) or other paste-style tomatoes are better suited to drying.
- Point the thin part of the slices toward the center of the tray so that the air flow around the slices is not impeded by the thicker portion.
- Home-dried tomatoes will be firmer than commercially dried tomatoes. If you don't dry them enough and leave them soft, they will spoil quickly.

Source: The Dehydrator Bible, 2009

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