

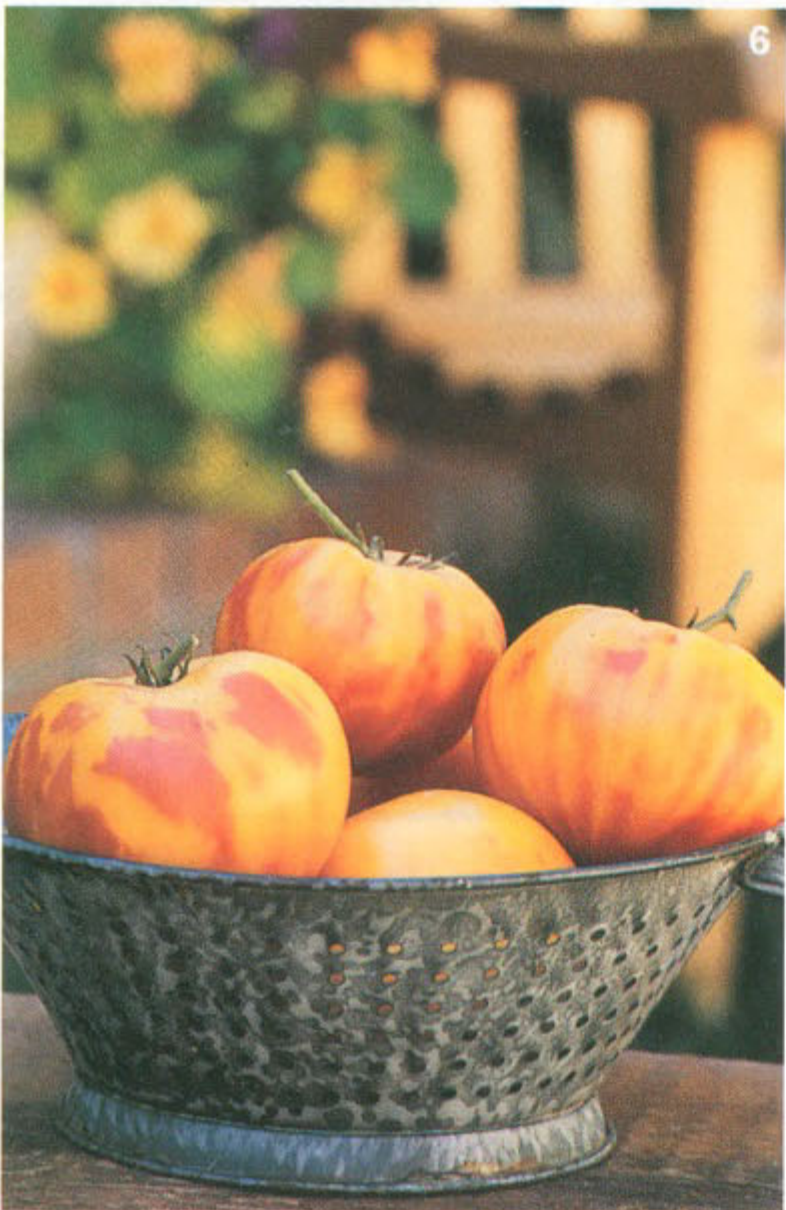
1



2



3



6

**OPPOSITE: HEIRLOOM TOMATOES COME IN A VAST RANGE OF SIZES, SHAPES, AND COLORS. SEEDS FOR MANY HARD-TO-FIND OLD-TIMERS SUCH AS THOSE SEEN HERE (GROWN BY GARY IBSEN) ARE NOW AVAILABLE THROUGH PRESERVATION GROUPS AND SEED BANKS. THIS PAGE: 1. 'PLUM LEMON' CAME TO AMERICA IN 1991 VIA A SEEDSMAN IN RUSSIA. THIS VARIETY (AND ALL OTHERS ON THESE PAGES) IS INDETERMINATE, MEANING VINES WILL CONTINUE TO PRODUCE FRUIT UNTIL STOPPED BY FROST (DETERMINATE VARIETIES, BY CONTRAST, SET FRUIT JUST ONCE). 2. PLUMP, ROUND 'MOONGLOW' IS RED ON THE OUTSIDE, ORANGE ON THE INSIDE. 3. POINTED 'AMISH GOLD' BOASTS ILLUSTRIOUS ANCESTORS: SWEET 'SUNGOLD' AND MEATY 'AMISH PASTE'. 4. HEIRLOOM-TOMATO BREEDER TOM WAGNER DEVELOPED 'GREEN ZEBRA' IN 1985. A LEMON-LIME FLAVOR AND PRETTY, LIGHT GREEN INTERIOR MAKE IT A FAVORITE OF CHEFS AND GARDENERS ALIKE. 5. COLD-TOLERANT 'STUPICE' HAILS FROM THE CZECH REPUBLIC. 6. SUCCULENT, LOW-ACID 'HILLBILLY' IMPARTS FIRST-CLASS BEEFSTEAK FLAVOR. →**



4

## what, exactly, is an heirloom tomato?

Handed down from generation to generation, heirloom tomatoes are open-pollinated (non-hybrid) plants produced by crossing two parents of the same variety, which in turn produce offspring just like the parent plants. Gary Ibsen and other tomato experts divide heirloom tomatoes into four groups:

**Commercial heirloom** Open-pollinated varieties introduced prior to 1940.

**Family heirloom** Varieties that may not have been available through seed catalogues until recently.

**Created heirloom** The result of deliberately crossing two known parents to create a hybrid, which is then dehybridized through the next few generations by selecting out the most desirable characteristics. After about five generations of planting, when no new deviations occur, the new heirloom has been created.

**Mystery heirloom** A variety born of unknown natural cross-pollination.

**More information** about tomatoes can be found in Gary Ibsen's *The Great Tomato Book* (to order, see Resources).



5