

Tomato Contest Information

Contest Divisions:

- Cherry/Small Tomatoes (first, second and third place prizes)
- Large/Medium Tomatoes (first, second, and third place prizes)
- Heaviest Tomato (one prize)
- Basket of Plenty – Best Vegetable-and-Friends (one prize)

Prizes:

- **Cherry/Small and Large/Medium Divisions:**
 - 3rd Place – \$10 Fanick's Gift Card
 - 2nd Place – \$25 Fanick's Gift Card
 - 1st Place – \$50 Fanick's Gift Card
- **Heaviest Tomato** – \$50 Fanick's Gift Card
- **Basket of Plenty – Best Vegetable-and-Friends** – \$50 Fanick's Gift Card
- **Best in Show** – \$50 Fanick's Gift Card (Determined from the first place winners of the Cherry/Small Tomato and the Large/Medium Tomato divisions)

Basic Entry Rules:

- Entries will be accepted from 9–11 am at Fanick's Garden Center on Saturday, June 11.
- Complete the [entry form](#) (one form for each entry) and bring with you on the day of the contest. Entry forms will also be available on the day of the contest.
- Judging will begin at 11 am and winners will be announced when judging ends, around 12 pm.
- Tomato entries must be home grown on vines planted and maintained by the contestant. **Commercial growers are not eligible.**
- No more than one entry per division (i.e. one Cherry/Small Tomato entry, one Medium/Large Tomato entry, one Heaviest Tomato entry, and one Basket of Plenty – Vegetable-and-Friends entry) per person.
- Open to Texas residents of all ages.
- Entries not collected by the contestants by 1:00 pm will become the property of Bexar County Master Gardeners.

What Judges Will Be Looking For:

Cherry/Small Tomatoes

- Entries must include a minimum of 6 tomatoes.
- If possible, 1/2" stems (calyx) should be left on and be green and fresh.
- Uniformity in size, color, shape and maturity of the tomatoes is important. Mature tomato color is dependent on the variety of the tomato.
- Tomatoes should be free of blemishes of any type.

Large/Medium Tomatoes

- Entries must include a minimum of three tomatoes.
- If possible, 1/2" stems (calyx) should be left on and be green and fresh.
- Uniformity in size, color, shape and maturity of the tomatoes is important. Mature tomato color is dependent on the variety of the tomato.
- Tomatoes should be free of blemishes of any type.

Heaviest Tomato

- Entry is one tomato only. Must be declared on the entry form to be entered in the Heaviest Tomato contest only.
- If possible, 1/2" stems (calyx) should be left on and be green and fresh.
- In the event of a tie in weight, the circumference of the entry will determine the winner.
- If the weight and circumference are equal then the judges will make the determination by the looks of the tomato.

Basket of Plenty – Best Vegetable-and-Friends

- Basket, or other container, cannot exceed 20" in diameter (or 20" in width and length).
- Arrangement must contain **at least 50%** vegetables, with the rest an optional mix of herbs, fruit, greenery, and/or flowers from your garden.
- Freshness matters. Plan a design that will have your basket contents looking their best. (See our tips section below for ideas on how to keep your entry fresh)

- Examples:



(1)



(2)



(3)

Photo Credits:

(1) – <https://www.southernliving.com/home-garden/holidays-occasions/easter-centerpiece>

(2) – <https://vegebouquet.co.nz/products/zero-waste-bouquet>

(3) – <https://pixabay.com/photos/vegetables-vegetable-basket-harvest-752153/>

*Note: All supplies including wet floral foam, wooden picks, and flower tubes/picks should be available at craft and hobby stores and floral supply stores. The fruit and vegetables pictured above may not be in season for the June Top Tomato Contest. **THESE ARE ONLY EXAMPLES.** Many more examples may be found on Pinterest and other sites. **Please follow all Contest rules as stated on the BCMG website.***

All decisions of the judges, including eligibility at the time of entering, are final.