

## The FarmGirls Tomato Transplanting Tips

Marilyn and Donelle Simmons, the FarmGirls, gave a gardening class in March 2015; below are notes from this class.

In a bucket fill about one gallon of water and add a tablespoon of Maxicrop seaweed solution.

Dig the hole and put the following amendments in the hole:

- 1 handful of soft rock phosphate,
- 1 handful of worm castings,
- 1 handful of tomato and pepper food (recommended Rabbit Hill Farm),
- 2 tablespoons of Epsom salt,
- crushed eggshells.

Submerge a tomato transplant in the bucket filled as described above and wait until plant is thoroughly soaked.

Fill the hole with water (approximately 2 quarts of water)

Put the tomato transplant into the hole and gently fill the hole around the plant with soil.

Other notes to consider:

If the tomato plant is leggy (has a long stem), rather than a round hole, dig a short trench and lay the tomato transplant on its side so as to cover a significant portion of the tomato stem. The plant will develop roots from its stem and have larger root system. Don't worry that the plant isn't facing up toward the sun. It will turn and grow toward the sun.

As the plant grows, remove the lower "branches" from the stem up to about 10 inches from the ground.