



“Trials for HARNESSTOM advanced prebreeding materials well underway at CTAEX experimental extension”

A large number of advanced tomato prebreeding materials targeting the main prebreeding objectives in HARNESSTOM are currently growing at the Centro Tecnológico Nacional Agroalimentario CTAEX (CTAEX Agricultural and Food Technological Centre) in Badajoz Spain. CTAEX is a research organization for innovation in agricultural and food technology. CTAEX is an active partner in HARNESSTOM and is strategically located in the main tomato processing industry region of Spain and is ideally suited for this job.

Lines were selected to increase tomato tolerance to high temperature and drought conditions to important stresses increasingly affecting tomato cultivation in many areas of the world as a consequence of climate change. CTAEX in the Badajoz areas is especially suited for these studies given its location (where high temperatures are already affecting negatively tomato productivity and longtime experience of its staff. These materials have been generated during the last 3.5 years by HARNESSTOM partners which include introgressions of different origin, i.e. wild relative regions into the genome of breeding lines from participating companies as well as into academic lines. Similarly, a selection populations derived from crosses of traditional tomato varieties offering a variation in fruit colors, shapes, sizes and composition are being also evaluated at CTAEX. The results will be available after the summer.



General view of the fields at CTAEX where the trials are being conducted to evaluate the advanced materials from the the three main HARNESSTOM prebreeding programs.





Close view of some of the plants in the fields at CTAEX where the trials are being conducted to evaluate the advanced materials from the three main HARNESSTOM prebreeding programs

