

Growing Tomatoes my way

Bob Corfield

Having read in a newspaper gardening supplement some time ago that tomatoes like to be watered with just water on the top of the soil they're planted in and a mix of fertilizer and water on their roots, I set up the tomatoes in my greenhouse this year so that I could apply fertilizer to their roots without disturbing them.

As soon as the flowers had starting forming, for each plant I inserted a length of blue plastic pipe about a foot long with the end about 6 – 7 inches into the soil so the end was right where the roots were located.

When I watered the roots I used a mix of water and liquid seaweed (available from our shop) to the right mix. I watered the topsoil with rain water and I alternated the watering so one day I did the roots and next the tops. It was a fantastic success – we had a bumper crop of tomatoes of various kinds.

It was the best harvest of tomatoes I've ever had. It's well worth trying and I shall be using this method from now on. Here's a quick sketch of how it was set up.

