Seed Saving Tomato Seeds

Materials needed
- Fully ripened tomatoes
- Knife
- Jar/bowl with a lid
- Spoon
- Tray/plate

Choose seeds: Get seeds from fresh, ripe tomatoes that have been open-pollinated.

1. Collect the seeds from the tomatoes:
   - Cut the tomatoes in half using a knife and scoop the seeds...
   - ...and the pulp with a spoon or your fingers into a bowl.

2. Put the seeds and pulp in a labelled container with a lid. Do not add water. Keep it in a warm place for three days, but not in direct sunlight.

3. After three days, the pulp rots and ferments quickly, freeing the seeds, which sink to the bottom.

4. The first rinse gets the seeds nearly clean.

5. Add a little water, let the seeds sink to the bottom again, and carefully pour off the rotted pulp.

6. The first rinse gets the seeds nearly clean.
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7. Refill the container with fresh water, let the seeds sink, and carefully pour off as much water and floating pulp and seeds as you can.

8. Dump the clean seeds into a strainer/sieve with mesh fine enough to catch them and drain the water.

9. Spread the seeds out on a plate or tray to dry. Do not dry in direct sunlight.

10. When the seeds are fully dry, store them in an airtight container. Label the bag/container so that you remember when the seeds were harvested. If you keep them dry, tomato seeds should last at least five years.