

**Title** Fruit Quality of Two Tomato Cultivars at Different Color Stages at Harvest

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#### **Abstract**

Tomato cultivars CLN1462A and TLCV15 from large-scale variety trial under Laos conditions were evaluated for yield and quality attributes at harvest. Fruit production in TLCV15 was very profuse, resulting in yields of about three-fold higher than CLN1462A. A large-fruited cultivar, CLV146As fruit was flat-shaped with length greater than the width (<1 length to width ratio) and weighed about twice that of oblong-shaped TLCV15 fruit (>1 length to width ratio). The number of locules of CLN1462A fruit was almost twice that of TLCV15. Physicochemical attributes of fruits harvested at different ripeness stages (breaker, turning, pink, light red and red stage) differed between the two cultivars. Firmness of breaker fruit of the two cultivars was comparable but firmness loss due to advancing ripening was greater in CLN1462A than TLCV15 had higher soluble solids content (SSC), titratable acidity expressed as percent citric acid (PCA), and consequently, higher SSC:PCA ratio than CLN1462A. SSC did not differ much with harvest ripeness stage while PCA. It was higher in CLN1452A than TLCV15 fruit the results illustrate the importance of combining desired quality attributes for desired quality attributes for different markets without compromising yield.