

Pricking Tomatoes

These tomato seedlings have grown in Niem coins. They each have at least 4 true leaves and are now ready to be transplanted.

In my experience, the best tool for this is a Chinese chopstick.



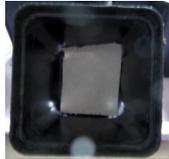
1. Preparing the pots: To ensure that the plants can be easily removed later, make a cut from hole to hole or use ready-made pots.



5. Carefully pull the seedlings apart.



2. Toilet paper sheets (pure cellulose!) place on the bottom to prevent the soil from being washed out.



6. Fill the pots with soil and make a deep hole in the middle (down to the bottom)



3. Reduce tomato soil with 1/3 lava granulate. Commercially available tomato soil is often over-fertilized, which damages the roots.



7. Put ½ teaspoon of mycorrhiza on expanded clay into each hole.



4. Cut open and remove the wrapping

from the coconut balls.



8. Now place a seedling as deep as possible into each hole so that the bare roots come into contact with the mycorrhiza pellets, and press the soil down firmly.



After pricking out, place the tomatoes in a cool ($\pm 18^{\circ}\text{C}$) and very bright location so that they grow strong and sturdy. Window light is not sufficient if you have double or triple glazing!

It is normal for them to stop growing at this stage, as the symbiosis must form and new roots must grow. Do not “help” with fertilizer, as this will interfere with healthy development! Fertilize again only when planting in the bed (lime and sheep’s wool pellets).

