

Tomato Plants Look Healthy but aren't Setting Fruit

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With the high daytime temperatures lately, you may notice that your otherwise healthy tomato plants fail to produce fruit. When daytime temperatures reach above 85 degrees F, it interferes with pollination and can cause the plants to abort their flowers. The optimal temperature for tomatoes to fruit is between 70- and 85-degrees F. Once the weather returns to temperatures that are more moderate the plants will resume fruit production. During the period of slowed fruiting, ensure plants are receiving proper care to reduce the amount of stress.

There are some varieties of tomatoes that are less sensitive to the heat including cherry tomatoes and some larger, slicing tomatoes, but the heat tolerance is only a few degrees different.

For more information, please contact the local K-State Research and Extension Office.

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