

Tomato Market
Central America and Caribbean
 Javier Martinez, Seminis Vegetable Seeds

The total area planted with tomatoes in Central America and the Caribbean is 28,205 has (69,690 acres) divided approximately 50-50% in each region.

The region plants four different types of tomatoes; Fresh Market tomatoes, Saladettes (pear shape for fresh market), processing shape for fresh market and processing for process (the last one just in the Dominican Republic and Panama).

Basically all the countries within the region have the same pests, diseases and the most important thing is that the entire region has enormous problems with viruses.

When we talk about diseases, we have Pseudomonas (Bacterial wilt), Phytophthora (late blight), Alternaria (early blight), in the cases of pests, white fly, leaf miner, Spodoptera.

The region also has big heat pressure in some areas and during some months (April-July) and there is a lot of pressure with viruses.

The area planted in the region is divided by country as follows:

- Guatemala:
 - Saladette 4,544 has (11,230 acres)
 - Processing for FM 980 has (2,430 acres)
 - Fresh Market 70 has (173 acres)
 - El Salvador
 - Processing form FM 1,400 has (3,460 acres)
 - Fresh Market 100 has (247 acres)
 - Honduras
 - Processing for FM 2,000 has (4,940 acres)
 - Fresh Market 500 has (1,235 acres)
 - Nicaragua
 - Processing for FM 1,750 has (4,325 acres)
 - Costa Rica
 - Fresh Market 1,500 has (3,700 acres)
 - Panama
 - Fresh Market 250 has (620 acres)
 - Processing 800 has (1,980 acres)
 - Dominican Republic
 - Processing 10,000 has (24,710 acres)
 - Fresh Market 1,200 has (2,960 acres)
 - English and French Speaking Islands
 - Fresh Market 2,460 has (6,080 acres)
 - Saladette* 654 has (1,610 acres)
- *These are indeterminate Saladettes.

We do not have information about Cuba, Haiti or Puerto Rico.