

Is a tomato a fruit or a vegetable?

Did you know that in 1887 the question of the tomato fruit or vegetable debate was brought before the U. S. Supreme Court?

The main issue was the protection of the American farmer. If tomatoes were a vegetable, they could be taxed when imported, giving the American farmer a competitive advantage over foreign imports.

In the final decision, the U. S. Supreme Court did recognize that tomatoes were botanically a fruit, but ruled in favor of the American farmer with the decision that because of its use, tomatoes were to be considered a vegetable.