2026 TOMATO SEASON

MUTTI REPORTS SOLID RESULTS IN A SEASON MARKED BY EXTREME WEATHER

- *The company processed 775,000 tonnes of tomatoes, maintaining quality and production continuity despite crop yields below the five-year average*
- *The season, which began earlier than ever before, revealed unprecedented agronomic anomalies and the supply chain's growing exposure to the effects of climate change*
- *CEO Francesco Mutti comments: "The sector's resilience cannot depend on temporary circumstances; immediate infrastructure investment and responsible planning are needed"*

Montechiarugolo (PR), 7 October 2026 – Mutti, Europe's leading group in the tomato products market, has concluded the 2026 tomato season with solid, positive results. The season closed with **775,000 tonnes of raw tomatoes processed**, a volume that demonstrates the company's ability to maintain operational continuity and outstanding quality standards even in a particularly challenging year. With processing beginning around the first week of July, the earliest start on record, the 2026 season demonstrated **the resilience of the Mutti model** in the face of the sector's growing challenges.

The climate challenge: an early warning for the sector

Once again, the season was marked by extreme weather events, a clear warning for the future of Italian agriculture. Exceptionally high temperatures and violent hailstorms severely affected plant development, bringing crop yields per hectare below the five-year average, particularly in northern Italy, and revealing unprecedented agronomic anomalies that are a cause for concern across the sector. Nevertheless, **Mutti's close ties to growing regions and flexible industrial operations enabled it to preserve the quality of the finished product**, with southern Italy showing greater production resilience and exceptionally high quality in some crops, particularly tomatoes for peeled products.

"From an agronomic perspective, the 2026 season confirmed that the climate crisis is presenting us with unfamiliar scenarios for which we are not yet fully prepared. Bringing the start of the processing season forward to early July was a response to heat-induced accelerated ripening, while the second half of the summer saw a significant drop in Brix levels alongside lower yields," said **Massimo Perboni, Director of Agricultural Services at Mutti SpA**. *"It was a challenging summer, but we come away proud of our collaboration with growers and the flexibility of our production sites: these enabled us to safeguard the excellence of our raw tomatoes and meet our high-quality standards."*

The vulnerability of the production system and volume management

Alongside weather-related variables, the 2026 season drew attention to **the importance of increasingly precise coordination across the supply chain**. Given the extensive area under

cultivation nationwide, the start of the season highlighted the risk of a potential mismatch between planned crop production and the processing industry's actual capacity to handle it.

The potential oversupply was gradually absorbed over the following months, as crop yields below initial estimates helped bring total volumes back into balance nationwide. In this complex environment, **Mutti once again proved to be a benchmark for the sector**: the early opening of its plants allowed it to respond promptly to growers' delivery needs, while maintaining its long-standing reward scheme – from the Quality Premium and the Pomodorino d'Oro award, to incentives for early-season tomatoes – ensured **economic stability and operational continuity for its farming partners**.

"Mutti's results this season are solid and reward our commitment, but we can no longer postpone addressing the issues raised by the climate crisis, particularly water scarcity. As glaciers and snowfields gradually disappear, we face increasingly severe dry summers. This is a problem for the entire Po Valley, not just our sector," concluded **Francesco Mutti, CEO of Mutti SpA**. *"We can no longer rely on external factors, let alone afford to wait for disaster before taking action. Mutti will continue to play its part by investing in quality and value for its partners, but without immediate infrastructure investment and responsible planning, the entire Made in Italy economy faces a systemic risk."*

About us

MUTTI SPA – Founded in Parma, Mutti is Europe's leading company in the tomato products market. In 1899, Marcellino and Callisto Mutti launched their first tomato processing season. Ever since, guided by the core values of quality and Italian tradition, together with respect for the supply chain and the local area, the Mutti family has focused exclusively on 100% Italian tomatoes, producing tomato paste, passata and finely chopped tomatoes that are now enjoyed around the world. The drive to innovate, part of the company's DNA since its foundation, has gradually expanded the range to include a wide selection of pasta sauces, ready-to-use sauces and soups. Today, with over 125 years of history, the Mutti Group is present in 100 countries worldwide, with net revenue of €777 million in 2025 and 775,000 tonnes of tomatoes processed in 2026. Montechiarugolo (PR) is the Group's historic base and commercial headquarters, which has gradually expanded to cater to every taste. The Oliveto Citra (SA) plant processes typical southern Italian varieties, such as plum and cherry tomatoes.

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