Catface on Tomato

Recognize the problem
The condition is characterized by deep holes into the blossom end of the fruit. It shows itself as kidney-shaped, long blossom scars. The fruits become unmarketable due to the hole-like scars at the bottom of the fruit.

Background
This condition is associated with faulty pollination and cold weather. High nitrogen levels and improper pruning can increase the problem.

Management
Non-chemical control
• Plan the planting season to avoid very cold periods.
• Choose cultivars that are not susceptible to the problem.
• Gently shake or flick the flowers to encourage pollination. This can also be done by wiping the flower with a soft cloth.
• Avoid applying too much nitrogen fertilizer.
• Water the tomato plants frequently.

There is no known chemical control.