

Fruit & Vegetables

Crimson Sweet Watermelon

Planting Instructions: Start seed indoors 4 weeks before transplanting outdoors. Take care not to disturb roots when transplanting. Or, sow a few seeds over a hill 9 to 12 inches tall and 2 feet across. When plants are 3 inches tall, thin by cutting to 3 plants per hill. Use a balanced fertilizer to increase yield. Choose a site with good drainage, good air circulation and full sun. Ready to harvest when skin on underside turns yellow and when a thump with knuckles produces a hollow sound.

Harvest Season: June

Days to Germination	Planting Depth	Days to Harvest	Spacing Hills/Row
6-8	1/2"	85	5' / 6'

Cucumber

Planting Instructions: In full sun, sow a few seeds over a hill 12 inches tall and 2 feet across with well-drained soil. For smaller gardens, plant alongside fence or trellis. When plants are 2 inches tall, thin to 3 plants per hill. Plant at 3-week intervals up to midsummer for fresh cucumbers all season. Keep fruits picked. Plant cucumbers seed only after all danger of frost is past and ground is warm. They need lots of sunshine and water. Keep weeds to a minimum with a straw or leaf mulch.

Harvest Season: Late May – June

Days to Germination	Planting Depth	Days to Harvest	Spacing Hills/Row
8-10	1/2"	55	4' / 6'

Summer Squash- Dark Green Zucchini

Planting Instructions: Sow in sunny location, after danger of spring frost has passed. Thin seedlings when they are 3 inches in height, with a final spacing of 3 plants every 3 feet. Keep fruits picked so that plants continue to produce. Summer squash does not store for long periods of time.

Harvest Season: Late April – June

Days to Germination	Planting Depth	Days to Harvest	Spacing Hills/Row
7-14	1"	50	3' / 4'

Carrot

Planting Instructions: Sow in well worked, stone-free soil, after danger of heavy frost. Thin seedlings when they are 2-3 inches in height, with the final spacing of the plants 3 inches apart. Thin ruthlessly. If your carrots are to grow well, they must have room. Water lightly. Too much water can cause carrots to crack.

Harvest Season: Late April – June

Days to Germination	Planting Depth	Days to Harvest	Spacing Hills/Row
8-12	1/2"	75	2-3" / 12-15"

Green Beans

Planting Instructions: Sow seed when soil is warm and all danger of frost is past. Plant 2 seeds every 4 inches. Soaking seeds overnight before planting will speed germination. Thin to 1 plant every 4 inches when plants have 4 leaves. Pick early and often to encourage production. Sow every 2 weeks until 8 weeks before fall frost. Avoid walking around beans when wet; this may spread diseases. When weeding, hoe gently because beans are shallow-rooted. Mulch plants only after thinning.

Harvest Season: Late May – June

Days to Germination	Planting Depth	Days to Harvest	Spacing Row/Plant
6-8	1 1/2"	55	20" / 4"

Lucy Robbins Welles
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Herbs

Basil

Planting Instructions: Start seed indoors near a sunny window 6 weeks before transplanting to the garden. Or, sow in the garden in full sun when frost danger is over and ground is warm. Performs best in rows 2 feet apart. Thin or transplant plants to 10 inches apart when they are 2 inches tall. Remove flower buds to encourage leaf growth. Begin harvesting all but 2 or 3 leaves at the base of each branch before flowers bloom. Preserve leaves by drying or freezing.

Harvest Season: May – June

Days to Germination	Plant Height	Planting Depth	Plant Spacing
5-10	18-24"	¼"	10"

Cilantro

Planting Instructions: Sow directly in full sun after all danger of frost is past. For best results, thin plants to 6 inches apart when 2 inches tall. Harvest seeds in late summer by cutting seed heads when ripe. Spread seed heads on trays to dry in sun. Thresh by hand and store in jars. The seed odor dissipates in storage.

Harvest Season: May – July

Days to Germination	Plant Height	Planting Depth	Plant Spacing
7-10	20-28"	¼"	6"

Lavender

Planting Instructions: Start seed indoors near a sunny window 6 weeks before transplanting to the garden. Or, sow in the garden in full sun when frost danger is over and ground is warm. Perform best in rows 2 feet apart. Thin or transplant plants to 18 inches apart when they are 3 inches tall. Cut flowers when they have just opened and the scent is the strongest. Dry on screen in shade. Excellent in flower arrangements.

Harvest Season: May - June

Days to Germination	Plant Height	Planting Depth	Plant Spacing
10-28	24-30"	1/8"	18"

Parsley

Planting Instructions: Soak seeds overnight in warm water. Start indoors in a sunny location 6 weeks before planting outdoors. Or, sow in the garden in rich, moist, deep soil in sun or partial shade as early as ground can be worked. Thin or transplant plants to 10 inches apart when they are 2 inches tall. Cut only 2 or 3 stems from a plant as required for use. For later use, freeze dry leaves or dry them in the shade. Interplant parsley with roses and tomatoes to enhance vigor of both. Soak seeds overnight in warm water to speed germination.

Harvest Season: May – June

Days to Germination	Plant Height	Planting Depth	Plant Spacing
21-28	12-16"	¼"	10"

Thyme

Planting Instructions: Start seed indoors in a sunny location 6 weeks before transplanting outdoors. Or, sow in the garden in ordinary well-drained soil after danger of frost is past and the soil has warmed. Thin or transplant plants to 8 inches apart when they are 2 inches tall. Pick leaves as needed. For drying leaves, cut entire plant to 2 inches above the ground just before it flowers in the early summer. Dry leaves in the shade. Thyme will thrive as a potted plant.

Harvest Season: June

Days to Germination	Plant Height	Planting Depth	Plant Spacing
8-20	8-12"	¼"	8"

Flowers

Alyssum

Planting Instructions: After danger of frost, sow seeds in open ground well exposed. Cover with 1/8 inch soil. When plants are 2 inches tall, thin to allow for spreading. Ideal for edging and good in rock gardens, on sunny banks and wall crevices. Excellent for window boxes and hanging baskets.

Harvest Season: May – June

Days to Germinate	Days to Bloom	Plant Height	Plant Spacing	Grows Best
5-14	49-84	4-6"	6-8"	Sun/Partial Shade

Morning Glory

Planting Instructions: After all danger of frost, sow in open ground well exposed. Cover with ¼ inch soil. (To hasten germination, nick seeds and soak overnight in warm water). When plants are 4 inches tall, thin. Does not transplant well. Excellent for porches, trellises, or fences. Use stout cord on which vines may climb. If lush growth and no flowers, stop watering.

Harvest Season: May – June

Days to Germinate	Days to Bloom	Plant Height	Plant Spacing	Grows Best
10-14	50-80	10-12'	6"	Full Sun

Sunflower

Planting Instructions: After all danger of frost, sow seeds in open ground well exposed. Cover with 1 inch of soil. When plants are 4 inches tall, thin. Needs lots of water. Excellent for tall blooming backgrounds and screens for unsightly places. Use as cut flowers.

Harvest Season: May – June

Days to Germinate	Days to Bloom	Plant Height	Plant Spacing	Grows Best
14-21	75-90	4-6'	18-24"	Full Sun

Wildflower

Planting Instructions: Sow seed outdoors in Spring in a sunny location with well-drained soil after all danger of frost is past. A good plot is also possible if seed is sown outdoors in late-Summer to early Fall, but allow plants at least 8 to 10 weeks to get established before the first frost. Before sowing, use a rake to roughen soil surface to a depth of 1 -1/2 to 3 inches, removing any weeds or vegetation. Broadcast seeds over planting area. Rake seed in very lightly and keep soil consistently moist. Each Fall after heavy frost, mow or use a weed trimmer to cut the plants back to 2 to 3 inches above the soil line. This encourages plants to reseed for blooms the following season.

Harvest Season: Apr – Jun & Oct – Dec

Days to Germinate	Days to Bloom	Plant Height	Plant Spacing	Grows Best
7-21	43-56	12-36"	Broadcast	Full Sun

Zinnia

Planting Instructions: Sow seeds outdoors in sunny location with well-drained, fertile soil in early spring after all the danger of frost has passed. Roughen the soil surface to a depth of 3" and remove any weeds. Shake packet well. Distribute seeds evenly over the planting area. Rake in seed lightly to a depth not to exceed ¼ inch. Tamp down seed by rolling or walking over seeded area. Keep the planting area consistently moist for 4-6 weeks. Seeds will germinate in 10 days or less under normal growing conditions. Seed may also be sown in containers.

Harvest Season: May – June

Days to Germinate	Days to Bloom	Plant Height	Plant Spacing	Grows Best
8-10	60-65	18-24"	8-18"	Full Sun