



General Garden Growing Information

The following guidelines have been sourced from the High Mowing Organic Seeds Catalogue. They are not specific to every variety. Information hounds may wish to research a particular variety to aid in a spectacular harvest!

Beans, Bush- Direct seed after last frost date. Sow 1-2" deep. Plant Spacing- 2" apart. Row spacing- 20-36".

Beans, Pole- Direct seed after last frost date. Sow 1-2" deep. Plant Spacing- 3" apart Row spacing 4'. Provide trellis, fence, or teepee.

Beets- Direct seed as soon as soil can be worked in the spring, or up to 6-8 weeks before fall frost. Sow ½"-3/4" deep. Roots: 10 seeds/ft in single row. For Baby Leaf: 40 seeds/ft in 2-4" bands. Thin to 2-4" depending on desired size. Rows 12-24" apart.

Broccoli- Start indoors 4-6 weeks before planting date. Plant outside as soon as the chance of hard frost has passed. Plant spacing- 18"-24". Row spacing- 24-36".

Brussels Sprouts- Start indoors 4-6 weeks before planting date. Plant outside as soon as the chance of hard frost has passed. Plant spacing- 18"-24". Row spacing- 30-36".

Cabbage- Start indoors 4-6 weeks before planting date. Plant outside as soon as the chance of hard frost has passed. Plant spacing- 18"-24". Row spacing- 18-34".

Carrots- Direct seed as soon as soil can be worked in the spring through mid-summer. Sow 1/4-1/2" deep. Seeding rate: For early small bunching: 45 seeds/ft; For full size 30 seeds/ft; For soup size or storage 15 seeds/ft. Thin to 1-2" depending on desired size. Rows 18-24" apart.

Cauliflower- Start indoors 4-6 weeks before planting date. Transplant out when seedlings have 4-5 true leaves. Fall plantings can be direct seeded or transplanted in mid-summer. Heads will not develop well in hot or dry weather. Timing is critical. Plant spacing- 18"-24". Row spacing- 24-36".

Celery- Start seedlings indoors 10-12 weeks before planting date. Seeds need light to germinate: cover lightly. Sow thickly into flats and pot up into cells or individual containers after first two true leaves appear. Seedlings emerge in 2-3 weeks. Transplants can be planted outdoors 2-3 weeks before last frost date. Plant spacing- 6 -10". Row spacing- 24-36".

Chard- Can be direct seeded mid-spring through mid-summer. Transplants can be started indoors 4-6 weeks before planting and transplanted outdoors after danger of frost has passed. Sow ½" deep. Plant Spacing- Direct seeding: For babyleaf sow 40 seeds/ft in 2-4" bands; for full size leaves thin plants to 4-8" depending on desired leaf size. Row spacing: for full size 18-24", for baby leaf 2-4" between bands.

Corn- Direct seed after last frost date. Sow 1-2" deep. Plants 10-12" apart in rows 30-36" apart.

Cucumbers- Can be direct seeded or transplanted one week after all danger of frost has passed. Start transplants 3-4 weeks before planting date. Sow ½" deep. Plant spacing- For slicing cukes 12-24", for pickling cukes 8-12", for greenhouse cukes 20". Row spacing- Row spacing: for slicing and greenhouse cukes 5-6', for pickling cukes 3-6'.

Eggplant- Sow seeds indoors 8-12 weeks before last frost date. Sow ¼" deep. Plant outdoors when daytime temperatures are at least 65°F and nighttime temperatures are above 50°F. Plant spacing- 18"-24". Row spacing- 30-36".

Garlic- Garlic is best planted in the fall for a spring crop. Separate bulbs into individual cloves right before planting, being careful not to break off the basal scar. Plant each clove with the basal root end down, and pointed tip up. Sow 2" deep if mulching with straw or using plastic mulch, 3-4" otherwise. Plant spacing: Hardneck and softneck types 4-6", Elephant garlic 8-12". Row spacing: 18-24".

Kale- Direct sow as soon as soil can be worked or start transplants 4 weeks before planting date. Sow 1/4-1/2" deep. Plant spacing- Babyleaf- Direct seeding: 60seeds/ft in 2-4" bands; Full Size- 12-18". Row spacing- 18-30".

Kohlrabi- Start transplants 4-6 weeks before planting date, or direct seed as soon as ground can be worked in early spring or late summer. Sow 1/4-1/2" deep. Plant spacing- 4". Row spacing- 12-18".

Leeks- Start transplants 10-12 weeks before planting date. Sow 1/4" deep. Plant spacing- 6". Row spacing- 24".

Lettuce-Start transplants 3-4 weeks before planting or direct seed in the spring as soon as the soil can be worked. Sow 1/8" deep, seeds require minimum amount of light for germination. Seeding rate- Babyleaf - 60 seeds/ft, in 2" bands. Full size - 3 seeds every 8-10". Plant spacing- Babyleaf – continuous band. Full size – 8-12". Row spacing- Babyleaf - 3/4" between bands, 16 rows/36" bed. Full size - 12-18" or 3 rows/36" bed.

Melon- Sow seed indoors 4 weeks before planting date, or direct seed 1-2 weeks following last frost date. Sow 1/2". Plant spacing 12-18". Row spacing- 6'.

Okra- Start plants indoors 6 weeks before transplanting. Transplant outdoors after danger of frost has passed. Sow 1/2" deep. Plant spacing 18-24". Row spacing- 3'.

Onions- Start transplants 10-12 weeks before planting date. Sow 1/8-1/4" deep. Plant spacing- Medium size onions 3-4", for large onions 4-6", for sweet onions 4". Row spacing- 18-30".

Peas- Direct seed as soon as soil can be worked in the spring. Sow 1-2" deep. Sow 25 seeds/ft in a 3" wide band. Dwarf varieties do not require trellising, but taller varieties should be supported. Plant peas in two rows, 8-12" apart, with a mesh or wire trellis between the rows for peas to climb. Plant spacing- 1-1.5".

Peppers- Start transplants 6-8 weeks before planting date. Transplant outdoors after danger of frost has passed. Sow 1/4" deep. Plant spacing- 12-18". Row spacing- 18-36".

Potatoes- Potatoes can be planted 1-2 weeks before the last frost date in spring. Small potatoes (1-1.5" diameter) can be planted whole or larger potatoes can be cut into pieces. Each piece of the tuber should have at least one eye (dormant bud). Cut the tubers a day early in order for the skin to dry before planting. Sprouts appear in 2 weeks. Hill plants shortly after emergence and again 3 weeks later, making sure to cover all exposed tubers to avoid greening, increase number of tubers, and promote larger growth. New potatoes can be harvested when plants begin to flower, around 7-8 weeks after planting. Storage potatoes should be harvested no earlier than 2 weeks after plants have died back. Sow 3-6" deep. Plant spacing-12". Row spacing- 30-36".

Radishes- Direct seed as soon as soil can be worked. Sow 1/4-1/2" deep. Plant spacing: for garden radishes 1", for daikon 4-6". Thin if necessary to ensure even sizing. Row spacing- For garden radishes 8-12", for daikon 12-16".

Rutabaga & Turnips- Direct seed. Turnips can be grown all season long but perform best in cool spring & fall conditions. Rutabagas are sown in the summer for fall harvests. Sow 3/4" deep. Seed spacing: for turnip 8 sds/ft, for rutabaga 6 sds/ft; Plant spacing: for turnip 2-4" , for rutabaga 6"; thin as needed. Row spacing- Row spacing: for turnip 12-18, for rutabaga 18-24".

Spinach- Direct seed as soon as soil can be worked in the spring, and again in the late summer-early fall. Sow 1/8-1/4" deep. Seeding rate- For babyleaf 40seeds/ft in 2-4" bands, for bunching 2". Row spacing- For babyleaf space bands 1-2" apart, for bunching 12-18".

Squash, Summer & Zucchini- Direct seed as soon as chance of all frost has passed or start transplants 3-4 weeks before planting date. Sow 1/2-1" deep. Direct seeding: 2-3 seeds every 12-24", thin to 1 plant. Plant spacing- 12-24". Row spacing- 5-6'.

Squash, Winter- Start transplants indoors 3-4 weeks before last risk of frost or direct seed once danger of frost has passed. Sow 1/2-1" deep. Direct seeding: 2-3 seeds/18-36", thin to one plant per spacing. Plant spacing: for bush varieties 18-24", for vining 24-36". Row spacing: for bush, semi-bush and short vine types is 6', for vigorous vining types use 9'. Plants can also be planted in hills of 3-5 plants in rows 3-5' apart.

Tomatoes- Start seeds indoors 6-8 weeks before planting date. Transplant outdoors after danger of frost has passed. Sow 1/8-1/4" deep. Plant spacing: for determinate varieties 12-18", for indeterminate 24-36". Row spacing- 4-6'.