



PBPS School Garden Magazine for Fall

- **Insights Gained From the Garden**
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Facts about eggplants:

- Eggplants grow in central Florida Jan-Feb and Aug-Sep.
- Eggplant are related to peppers and potatoes
- The most common color of eggplant is dark purple, but there is many other different colors.
- There are many different types of eggplants such as black beauty, little fingers, kermite, bark



Vegetable Spotlight

🍆 eggplants are originally believed to be from India or China.

🍆 they are the king of vegetables.

🍆 The plants flowered and grew small white and oval fruits that looked just like chicken eggs.



Practical advice for gardening task for fall

For some examples are

Raking up leaves

Pick weeds

If the weather get cold you will have to put a blanket over your plant



The Gardening Year

Spring

Start seeds indoors
Tap trees for sap
Set up nesting boxes
Sow cool-loving veggies
Prepare seedlings for planting
-----Last Frost-----
Plant seedlings
Sow seeds
Propagate tender cuttings



Summer

Grow more plants
Take garden photos
Propagate semi-ripe cuttings
Start fall veggie garden seeds
Savor beautiful days



Fall

Harvest fruits & veggies
Save seeds
Propagate hardwood cuttings
Divide and move plants
Plant fall-winter veggie garden
Plant spring-flowering bulbs
Store tender plants
Winterize pond and patio
Setup winter bird feeding stations
-----First Frost-----



Winter

Force indoor flowering bulbs
Grow an indoor salad garden
Warm spell? Water winter veggies and container plants
Prune apple trees
Plan next year's garden
Order seeds
Dream good garden dreams

Empress of Dirt

Include planting guides, maintenance tips, and weather-related recommendations.



WATERING

Water each seedling after burying it with approximately one gallon of water.

Periodically check soil moisture by carefully probing the soil near the seedling.

Soil that can be formed into a ball or ribbon has perfect moisture for root growth.

Fabric mulch applied over the seedling retains moisture and minimizes competition from weeds.

Recommendations



FERTILIZING

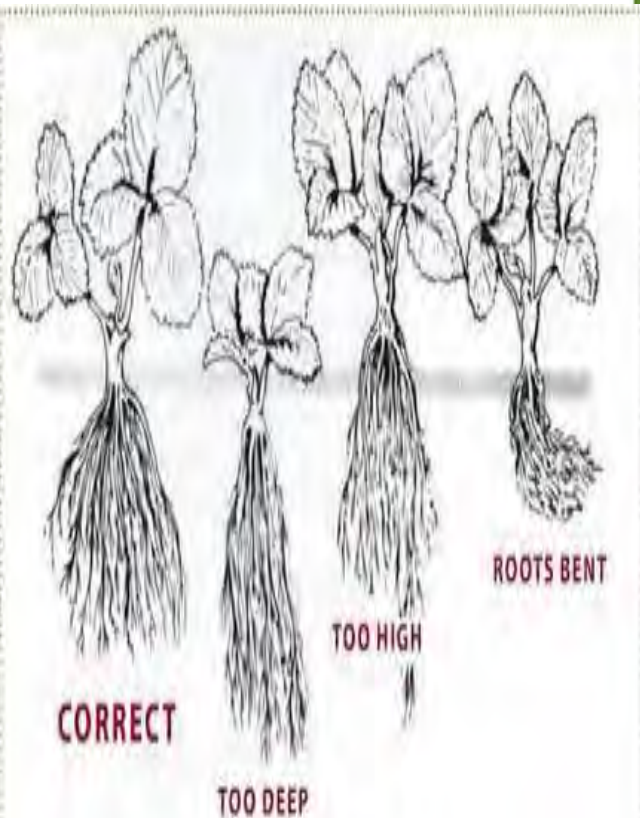
Fertilizer is not recommended in the first growing season. After the first growing season a granular, slow release fertilizer can be applied.

MULCHING

Fabric, wood chips, pole peelings or straw retain moisture and minimize weeds.

WEED CONTROL

Eliminate weeds within 2 feet of seedlings.



• STARTING A VEGETABLE GARDEN? •

HERE'S SOME TOP TIPS



LIGHT

Track the light of where you are wanting to plant. This helps you see how much shade or sunshine somewhere gets throughout the day before planting.



GROW

Grow what you love to eat and use the most in your kitchen at first. Then experiment later on with more experience. This will help you find your feet and not get overwhelmed.



SEEDS

Seeds or starts? Growing from seed is cheaper and in most cases, leads to a healthier plant. But plant starts are a great way to step into your first time vegetable garden.



PLANTING

If you are stuck for space, you can plant a lot of things in containers and pots. Just provide them with good drainage and check the depth and width the plant needs.



MAINTENANCE

A vegetable garden can go from simple to challenging really quickly. Plant for the time you can give it. Things like root vegetables and brassicas need little effort.



SOIL

Soil is the backbone of your garden. Invest in it more than anything. Great soil will give you the head start you need. Dig or no dig? Decide what's best for you and your space.

Weed of the month:

Dandelions

Be careful! Dandelions might be pretty to look at and healthy to eat, but they can be pest to your garden.

Dandelions are highly invasive plants. They self seed and travel with the help of the wind.

These are easy to pull out by hand when you spot them (hopefully before the flower goes to seed).



Tool maintenance for your garden:

Rinse digging tools with a garden hose and use a wire brush or putty knife to get rid of caked-on dirt.

Give pruners, loppers or shears, a quick scrub with a nail brush and some soapy water.

If tools were exposed to diseased plants or pest-infected soil, give them a quick soak in a diluted solution of 2 cups household bleach mixed with 1 gallon of water, then rinse in plain water, or wipe with a cotton pad soaked with rubbing alcohol.

Always dry your tools thoroughly with a towel or rag.





Worms ...just a few things I know:

- They are hermaphrodites.
- They consume bacteria and fungi that decompose organic materials (i.e. they don't actually eat the apple core you toss into the compost bin, they eat the microbes that eat the apple).
- Their poop (aka worm castings) is black gold, a probiotic bliss for plant life.
- They are an important source of food to so many other animals.
- They have the ability to sense the world over the surface of their bodies; their permeable, moist skin is covered in chemoreceptors and they breath, taste, and sense light and vibrations over their body surface.

Student artist / author unknown...

COOL SEASON CROPS

CROP	SEED VIABILITY (Years)	SPACING (inches)		SEED DEPTH (inches)	PLANTING DATES (Months)	TRANSPLANT -ABILITY	DAYS TO HARVEST FROM SEEDS	DAYS TO HARVEST FROM TRANSPLANTS
	Storage Condition None / Cool-Dry	ROWS	PLANTS					
Beets	2 / 3-4	14-24	3-5	1/2 - 1	Oct - Mar	I	50-65	N/A
Broccoli	2 / 4-5	30-36	12-18	1/2 - 1	Aug - Jan	I	75-90	55-70
Cabbage	2 / 4-5	24-36	12-24	1/2 - 1	Sep - Jan	I	90-110	70-90
Carrots	1-2 / 3-5	16-24	1-2	½	Oct - Mar	II	65-80	N/A
Cauliflower	2 / 4-5	24-30	18-24	1/2 - 1	Oct - Jan	I	75-90	55-70
Celery	1-2 / 3-5	24-36	6-10	1/4 - 1/2	Aug - Feb	II	115-125	80-105
Chinese Cabbage	3 / 5-8	24-36	12-24	1/4 - 3/4	Oct - Jan	I	70-90	60-70
Collards	2 / 4-5	24-30	10-18	1/2 - 1	Aug - Mar	I	70-80	40-60
Endive / Escarole	2 / 3-4	18-24	8-12	1/2	Jan - Feb Sep	I	80-95	N/A
Kale	2 / 4-5	24-30	12-18	1/2 - 1	Sep - Jan	-	80-95	N/A
Kohlrabi	2 / 4-5	24-30	3-5	1/2 - 1	Oct - Mar	I	70-80	50-55
Lettuce: Crisp, Butter Head, Leaf, Romaine	1-2 / 3-4	12-24	8-12	½	Sep - Mar	I	50-90	40-70
Mustard	2-3 / 5-8	14-24	1-6	1/2 - 1	Sep - Mar	II	40-60	N/A
Onions, Bulbing	<1 / 2-4	12-24	4-6	1/2 - 1	Sep - Dec	III	120-160	110-120
Onions, Bunching (green onions)	<1 / 2-4	12-24	1-2	2-3	Aug - Mar	III	50-75	30-40
Onions (Shallots)	<1 / 2-4	18-24	6-8	1/4 - 3/4	Aug - Mar	III	N/A	30-40
Peas, English	1-2 / 4-6	24-36	1-2	1-2	Sep - Mar	III	50-70	N/A
Potatoes	---	36-42	8-12	3-4	Jan - Feb	II	85-110	N/A
Radish	2 / 3-5	12-18	1-2	3/4	Sep - Mar	III	20-30	N/A
Spinach	1-2 / 3-4	14-18	33-5	3/4	Oct - Nov	II	45-60	N/A
Strawberry	---	36-40	10-14	---	Oct - Nov	I	N/A	90-110
Turnips	2-3 / 5-8	12-20	4-6	1/2 - 1	Jan - Mar Sep - Nov	III	40-60	N/A

WARM SEASON CROPS

CROP	SEED VIABILITY (Years) Storage Condition None / Cool-Dry	SPACING (inches)		SEED DEPTH (inches)	PLANTING DATES (Months)	TRANSPLANT -ABILITY	DAYS TO HARVEST FROM SEEDS	DAYS TO HARVEST FROM TRANSPLANTS
		ROWS	PLANTS					
Beans, Bush	2-3 / 4-6	18-30	2-3	1-2	Mar – Apr Sep	III	50-60	N/A ***
Beans, Pole	2-3 / 4-6	40-48	3-4	1-2	Mar – Apr Aug – Sep	III	55-70	N/A
Beans, Lima	2-3 / 4-6	24-36	3-4	1-2	Mar – Apr Sep	III	65-75	N/A
Cantaloupes	3-4 / 6-10	60-72	24-36	1-2	Mar – Apr	III	75-90	N/A
Corn, Sweet	1-2 / 4-6	24-36	12-18	1-2	Mar Aug – Sep	III	60-95	N/A
Cucumbers	3 / 5-7	36-60	12-24	1-2	Mar Sep	III	50-65	40-50
Eggplant	1-2 / 3-5	36-42	24-36	1/2	Mar Aug – Sep	I	90-110	75-90
Okra	1 / 2	24-40	6-12	1-2	Mar – Aug	III	50-75	N/A
Peas, Southern	2-3 / 4-6	30-36	2-3	1-2	Mar - Sep	III	60-90	N/A
Peppers	1-2 / 3-5	20-36	12-24	1/2	Mar Aug – Sep	I	80-100	60-80
Potatoes, Sweet	---	48-54	12-24	---	Feb – Jun	I	N/A	120-140
Pumpkin	1-2 / 3-5	60-84	36-60	1-2	Feb – Mar Aug	III	90-120	80-110
Squash, Summer	1-2 / 3-5	36-48	24-36	1-2	Mar Aug – Sep	III	40-55	35-40
Squash, Winter	1-2 / 3-5	60-90	36-48	1-2	Mar Aug	III	80-110	70-90
Tomatoes, Stake	2-3 / 4-7	36-48	18-24	1/2	Mar Sep	I	90-110	75-90
Tomatoes, Ground	2-3 / 4-7	40-60	36-40	1/2	Mar Sep	I	90-110	75-90
Tomatoes, Container	2-3 / 4-7				Mar Sep	I	90-110	75-90
Watermelon, Large	2-3 / 4-6	84-108	48-60	1-2	Mar Aug	III	85-95	80-90
Watermelon, Small	2-3 / 4-6	48-60	15-30	1-2	Mar Aug	III	85-95	80-90
Watermelon, Seedless	2-3 / 4-6	48-60	15-30	1-2	Mar Aug	III	85-95	80-90

Pickled cucumber recipe 🥒



Ingredients 📖

Mini cucumbers
Water
Organic distilled vinegar
Peppercorns
Coriander seeds
Garlic cloves

Basil Pesto

Ingredients:

2 cups packed fresh basil
½ cup extra-virgin olive oil
¼ cup toasted pine nuts
3 cloves garlic, peeled
1 dash fresh lemon juice
½ cup freshly grated parmesan cheese
kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
to taste



*Swap out the pine nuts for any nut of your choice!
I particularly like walnuts, almonds, and pistachios.

Make nut-free pesto by using pepitas or hemp seeds.

Tomato Salad Recipe

This tomato salad is a delicious summer side dish. It's made with juicy tomatoes, onion, fresh herbs, vinegar and olive oil.



Spicy Green Beans



Ingredients

- 1 tsp vegetable oil
- 1/2 lb green beans ends trimmed, chopped into bite-sized pieces
- 2 cloves garlic finely chopped
- 1 tsp soy sauce
- 1 tsp sambal oelek or other chile paste

Additions

- 1 tsp ginger grated
- 1 tsp lemon juice
- a little butter lemon pepper seasoning

The importance of creating a habitat for local wildlife:

- Wildlife helps in maintaining the ecological balance of nature.
- Wildlife gardens can also play an essential role in biological pest control
- also promote biodiversity, native plantings, and generally benefit the wider environment.



Tips for attracting birds to your garden

- Provide water year-round. A simple birdbath is a great start. ...
- Install native plants. ...
- Eliminate insecticides in your yard.
- Keep dead trees.
- Put out nesting boxes.
- Build a brush pile in a corner of your yard.
- Offer food in feeders.



Planting seeds in a test tube

The dirt should have the right amount of fertilizer for the seeds to germinate and the plant to grow. Press the soil into the tube with a finger or the bulb end of the pipette. Add a soaked seed or two into each container. Place it near the wall of the container so you can easily see what's going on inside.



Garden Science

This is how you make a mini ecosystem in a jar:

Step one: Add small rocks to the bottom of the jar. ...

Step two: Cover the rocks with a layer of soil (optional) ...

Step three: Place damp moss over the base layer. ...

Step four: Accessorize! ...

Step five: Seal your mini ecosystem. ...

Step six: Place at a windowsill and enjoy!



<https://youtube.com/shorts/wWZZHd0YOG8?si=6eUGZYImGhgNrzuf>

Eco friendly practices and reducing waste:



- Reuse plastic containers For planting for seeds and storing fertilizer
- Use leftover food for compost for the soil to grow more plants.
- Save seeds. If you have to buy seeds or plants to get started, then maximize your use of them

Eco-friendly tips:

- Upcycle dresser drawers by repainting it and planting it out with seasonal vegetables or herbs.
- Sanding down the edges of broken jars or glasses to reuse them as flower pots, and painting some old tires, making them into garden beds.
- In many ways, upcycling is an Earth-minded trend that's still coming into its heyday.

