



CUCUMBERS

Cucumbers are a warm-season crop that are popularly grown with a trellis in limited garden space. Cucumbers make excellent additions to salads, veggie trays or use with homemade dip!

VARIETIES

Colonial Gardens suggests Long Green, National Pickling, Space Master Bush, Straights, and Tender Green Burpless

Slicing cucumbers are long and slender and good for fresh eating. Pickling varieties are short and blocky in shape, often used in pickling.

PLANTING

Cucumbers should be planted after the last frost and in warm conditions. Typically the best time for planting is early May when soil temperatures are above 60 degrees.

When spacing cucumbers you'll want to place them 2 feet apart in rows 5-6 feet apart.

Dwarf type cucumbers can be grown in 3 foot rows and planted 2 feet apart.

Cucumbers can be transplanted by starting seeds in containers and then moving them into the garden. Seeds can be directly planted in the garden. Planting 2 seeds in each hill, or planting position, will ensure a uniform crop.

FERTILIZING

Fertilizer should be applied prior to planting or transplanting. Apply at a rate of 1.5 lb actual N per 1000 sf. A complete fertilizer will supply all of the necessary nutrients.

TRELLIS

Cucumbers respond well to trellising when space is limited. Train the plant up a fence or trellis and tie with loose string or plant tape.

INSECTS & DISEASES

Cucumber beetles can vector disease and should be removed if seen. In small plantings, they can be removed by hand, or controlled with insecticide.

HARVESTING

When harvesting cucumbers you'll want to pick them when they are firm and dark-colored. Often this means harvesting several times per week. Small cucumbers may be harvested for pickles at any stage. Removing large overgrown fruit will help keep the vines healthy and productive longer.

Cucumbers should be refrigerated and are used best the week pickled.