



RADISHES

Radishes are a hardy, cole crop vegetable that produce many crops within a rapid time manner due to their maturity. Radishes can be planted in both the spring and fall. Overall, radishes are a super easy vegetable to grow.

VARIETIES

The top varieties Colonial Gardens recommends include 'French Breakfast'. It does well in moderate heat and matures late. 'Cherry Belle' is a typical small, round red radish. It can be planted all summer long and matures fast. Another unique choice is 'Chinese White' (Daikon). It is unlike Cherry Belle, and looks like a white carrot but is sweet, crisp and mild.

PLANTING

Radishes should be planted 4-6 weeks before last frost.

Directly sow seeds ½"-1" deep and 1" apart in rows 12" apart.

After they have sprouted, thin to about 2" spacing, crowded plants don't grow well. Radishes need plenty of sun. If planted in the shade they will waste energy producing larger leaves.

Radishes require well-drained soil with consistent moisture.

Plant every 2 weeks or so for a continuous harvest.

FERTILIZING

Radishes will benefit from a complete balanced fertilizer applied at planting.

Sometimes less is more when it comes to fertilizing radishes, in fact a common problem that occurs is having too much of a certain element, usually nitrogen. Results of this may be spindly radish roots, low levels of antioxidants, and overly thick greens on top.

INSECTS & DISEASES

Be on the lookout for Cabbage Root Maggots. These are white, legless maggots, that clump together in groups and will feed on the root system of the radishes.

Clubroot is a common disease of radishes. It is caused by a slime mold. It attacks the roots and causes undeveloped roots or a failure produce.

HARVESTING

Radishes will be ready to harvest quite rapidly, as soon as 3 weeks after planting for some varieties.

Don't leave them in the ground once they're ready to be harvested, this can deteriorate their condition. Cut the tops off, wash and dry thoroughly.

Store in plastic bags in the refrigerator.