

HOW TO GROW BEANS!

When to Plant

Garden Beans require warm soil and good growing conditions. The seeds will decay quickly when planted in cold wet soil. The use of Garden Inoculant* at the time of planting can greatly increase yields.

Location/Soil

Beans do best when planted in full sun. Warm, well drained soil is best. Planting where beans and peas have not been grown for at least a year will help reduce insect and disease problems.

Planting & Growing Information

Once danger of frost has passed and the soil has warmed, directly sow bean seeds into gardens or raised beds.

Seeds germinate in approximately 6-14 days.

Bush Beans: Sow seed 2.5 cm (1") deep. Space seeds approximately 10 cm (4") apart. Space rows 60 cm (24") apart.

Pole Beans: Sow seed 2.5 cm (1") deep. Space seeds approximately 10 cm (4") apart at the base of a pole or support.

Bush beans produce an entire crop all at once while pole beans produce over the entire growing season. Keeping beans picked on both types of plants will increase production. Depending on the needs of the gardener, those who want to can or freeze a lot of beans may want to grow bush beans for a large harvest all at once where planting pole varieties will allow the gardener to harvest all season long but making succession plantings of bush beans will produce similar results.

Days to Maturity

50-90 days from date sown in the garden.

Other Information

Don't work in bean patch while plants are wet/damp – this will help reduce the spread of disease.

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Make sure plants receive adequate moisture during and immediately after flowering and once pods have formed to ensure a higher yield of nicely shaped beans.

Pole beans need support to climb. Use poles, strings, trellises or make tepees for the beans to climb.

Harvesting & Storage

Beans can be picked when pods are young and tender.

Harvest often to increase yields.

Remove pods that are too old for eating as the old pods take away nutrients from developing pods and reduce yields – if pods get large with seed, the plant will stop flowering.

Companion Planting

Likes: Carrot, cabbage, cauliflower, cucumber, marigold

*Garden Inoculant

It is a fine powder applied to the seeds at time of planting. Inoculant is living bacteria that enables garden bean and pea plants to produce nitrogen fixing nodules along the roots which act to gather nitrogen (which is vital for plant growth) from the air and soil resulting in better growth and production. In addition, the nitrogen gathered stays in the soil at the end of the season for the next season's crops to profit from.

NOTE: Store it in a cool place. It is best to use inoculant in the year it was purchased. Excess inoculant can be worked into the soil.

Source:

McKenzie Seeds (www.mckenzieseeds.com), a longtime supporter of Plant • Grow • Share a Row

Links:

Bean Seeds:

www.mckenzieseeds.com/collections/bean

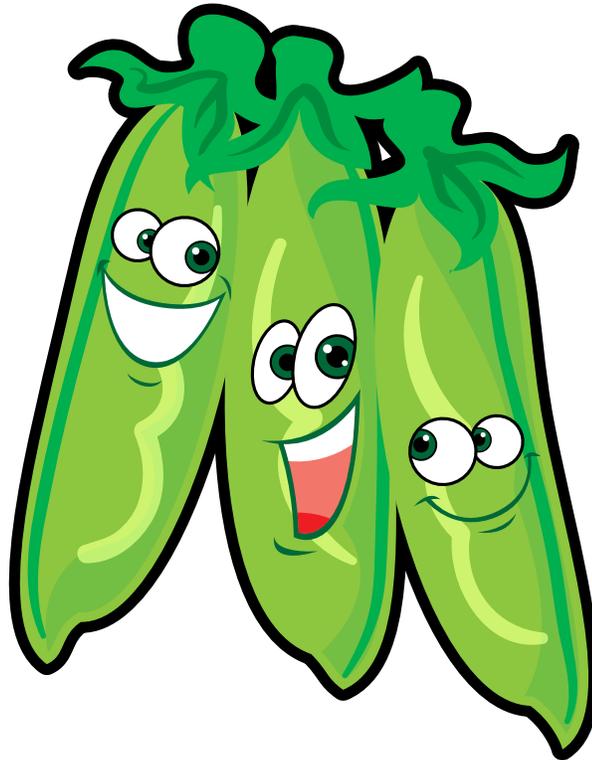
Articles from Harrowsmith:

www.harrowsmithmag.com/contributor/roger-mooking-for-sunset

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As part of your garden this year, plant and grow an extra row of your favourite veggies and donate the harvest to your local food bank. Help us help all those in need.

Special thanks to McKenzie Seeds for their great growing information and their long-time support for Plant - Grow - Share A Row