



Plant Resources

Garlic Growing Guide

Prep

WHEN IS GARLIC PLANTED?

Garlic is planted in the fall, but early enough so that the soil is still 60 degrees F.

HOW TO PREP YOUR SOIL

The soil should be loose and rich. The best way to get that is to dig compost into your garden.

We recommend incorporating Compost Blend with Lobster & Crab by Coast of Maine when planting garlic.



Spring

FERTILIZE

In early spring, as the crop just starts to emerge, you can add fertilizer. Don't fertilize after May 15th.



Blood meal is considered one of the best fertilizers for garlic because it is high in nitrogen. Garlic is a heavy nitrogen feeder.

WEEDING

Keep irrigating if necessary, and keep the weeds at bay. Like any onion family plant, garlic doesn't compete well with weeds.

You will probably see some curly stems ('scapes') that form as the bulb matures. Pick these off so they don't inhibit the bulb formation.

Harvesting

HOW TO HARVEST YOUR GARLIC

- Harvest after the leaves start to die back, when there are still 5 green leaves still on the plant. This will occur in June or early July.
- Dig the bulbs carefully, trying not to pull the stalk out of the bulb.
- Don't wash them, don't let them get bruised, just brush off most of the soil.

FACT

Mulch helps keep the soil temperature stable - garlic doesn't like a lot of temperature fluctuations.

Curing

HARVESTING PROCESS CONTINUED

- Put them in a dark and ventilated area right away so they can cure.
- Hanging them in a shed works well. You can add a light breeze from a fan if there isn't much air movement in your area. This drying period is for 4-6 weeks.
- Once they are dry, cut the roots off and cut the stem 1.5" above the bulb.

Storage

Store the dried, clean bulbs in a 50-70 degree area—not the refrigerator. You can hold back the nicest bulbs for replanting in the fall.

What if my cloves sprout during the fall? You're cloves may sprout during the fall, but they will survive!

FAQ



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