

GARDEN PLANNING 101

By: Cynthia Espinosa Marrero March 5th, 2016 5th Annual Food Gardeners' Gathering



Workshop Goals

For you to start thinking about what crops to plant, when and where to plant them.

Take home a draft of your garden and some resources to get you going!



GARDEN DESIGNS



Square Foot Gardening



Ground Gardening



Container Gardening



WHAT TO PLANT?



Tips on What to plant...

- Follow your taste buds.
- Overarching goal of the garden.
- Fun place to be!
- Other tips you can think of?

Spring crop: Radish





Fall crop: Winter Squash

Summer crop: Tomato



WHEN TO PLANT?



Tips on When to plant...

- Find the hardiness zone for where you live.
 - North Central MA is Zone 5b or 6a.
- Using seed packets and catalogs, we can learn the following:
 - if we should directly sow or transplant
 - Spacing
 - days for germination and maturity
 - and more.



Seeds Packets and Catalogs



Other sources for When to plant.

Home : Vegetables : Squash : Partenon



Partenon Organic (F1) Squash Seed	PRODUCT	PRICE
Product ID: 2713G	Puni	\$5.10
Adapted for greenhouse production.	Packet	\$5.20
Partenon is a medium dark green zucchini suitable for field or greenhouse production. Indoor crops must be irrigated regularly for uniform, cylindrical fruit. Easy to harvest, open plant. Parthenocarpic. Organically grown. Avg. 3,200 seeds/lb. Mini: 10 seeds. Packet: 30 seeds.	50 Seeds	\$14.00
	100 Seeds	\$24.00
	250 Seeds	\$46.50
	500 Seeds	\$84.95
	1,000 Seeds	\$155.65
	5,000 Seeds	\$681.70

QTY

ADD TO CART

ADD TO WISH LIST

Ouick Facts

Latin Name: Cucurbita pepo

Days to Maturity or Bloom: 48

Plant Cycle: (A)

Product Symbols: Œ



GROWING INFORMATION

Zucchini Summer Squash



CULTURE:

FROM TRANSPLANTS:

Sow 2–3 seeds in 1½–2" containers or plug trays 2–3 weeks before transplanting outdoors. Thin to 1 plant/cell with scissors. Transplant after frost danger when weather is warm and settled, about 12–18" apart. Take care not to disturb roots! Plastic mulch and fabric row covers will help plant establishment and exclude insect pests.

DIRECT SEEDING:

Sow beginning in late spring after danger of frost, when the soil temperature is at least 62°F (17°C) for treated seeds and 70°F (21°C) for untreated seeds. Seeds will rot in cool, wet soil. Sow 3 seeds every 12" (thin to 1 plant), V_2 -1" deep, in rows 5–6' apart. Sow every 2–3 weeks until 8 weeks before your first average frost date for consistent supply.

ROW COVERS:

Heavier grade floating row covers will provide about 4°F of frost protection, and add warmth for increased vigor and earlier harvest.

DISEASES:

If the first few fruits wither, blacken, and/or fail to enlarge, it indicates an absence of pollination, remedied when male blossoms appear and provide pollen. Viral diseases tend to be cyclic; watch for resistant varieties. Downy mildew may occur in cool, damp weather; powdery mildew can occur in hot or cold temperatures, or during dry periods. Till in vines before winter or remove and compost plants. Copper <u>fungicides</u> offer some preventative control if applied early enough.

INSECT PESTS:

Protect young plants with floating row covers to exclude cucumber beetles, squash bugs, and vine borers. <u>Pyrethrin</u> offers some control. Squash bug eggs (brown to brick red, laid in concise groups) on underside of leaves can be crushed by hand. Keep borders mowed. For vine borers use Bt or Azadirachtin around the base of young plants. Cut borers out of vine and hill soil over the wound. Clean up refuse in the fall, and spring-plow the ground to bury the pupae.

HARVEST FRUIT:

Cut or gently twist off young fruit. Handle with care to avoid scratching fruits. Harvest regularly, 2– 3 times per week depending on age of plants and amount of daylight.

HARVEST BLOSSOMS:

Male blossoms have thin stems, females have thick stems and a bulbous base where fruit is developing. Harvest male/female blossoms at midday, when fully open, for use in salads or for stuffing. If squash crop is desired, harvest only male flowers, being certain to leave a few to pollinate female flowers. Clip flowers from vine 1–2" below flower base with sharp scissors or pruners.

STORAGE:

Refrigerate fruit at 32–50°F (0–10°C), 80–90% relative humidity, for 1–2 weeks.

DAYS TO MATURITY:

From direct seeding; subtract about 14 days if transplanting.

AVG. DIRECT SEEDING RATE:

(at 3 seeds/ft., rows 6' apart) 250 seeds/83', 500 seeds/166', 1,000 seeds/333'.

SEED SPECS:

SEEDS/LB.: 2,500-4,200 (avg. 3,000).

Succession Planting

To make consuming a harvest more manageable, gardeners often use small, successive plantings.

You can plant the same crop with different varieties which have different maturity dates.
Plant the same crop at time intervals.
Plant a warm season crop after harvesting a cool season crop.

WHERE TO PLANT?



Tips on Where to plant...

• Find south!



- Water source.
- Observe your garden space.



- Plant compatibility is key.
- Consider the spacing requirements.





Hands-on Activity

- You have 20 minutes to draft your spring garden!
- Using the blank garden map, include notes on <u>when</u> you will plant them and <u>where</u>.



2016 Teaching Garden Cool Crops

	Broccoli	Cabbage	Carrots	Beets	
		•	(16)	(16)	Roots
	Kale	Cilantro	Onions	Radishes	ots
Greens		•	(9)	(16)	
G	Marigolds	Arugula	Nasturtiums	Peas	
	(4)	(4)	•	(8)	Legumes (Trellis)
	Lettuce	Spinach	Parsley	Peas	nes is)
	(4)	(4)		(8)	

Thank you for coming!!



References

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