



2014 Spring and Summer Seed Descriptions

Germination temperatures provided are for soil, not air and is an important consideration to make when planning your garden. [Read here](#) for more information, and note the link to the FAWN weather network that lists soil temperatures for our region.

Basic seed saving descriptions are offered here for each crop, but for more information contact us or consider purchasing *Seed to Seed* by Suzanne Ashworth, an inexpensive and indispensable guide to seed saving. Isolation distances refer to the minimum distance two plants of the same species should be separated to avoid cross-pollination. The number of plants suggested is a recommendation, but more is always better. Remember to always save from the best plants and/or fruits and avoid letting poor plants flower and spread their pollen. Always select seeds from plants that display the qualities you like about them: taste, slow to bolt, form, disease resistance etc.

LEGUMES

Bush Bean, Provider

Phaseolus vulgaris

Can be planted earlier than other beans as they will germinate well in cool soils. Compact plants are easy to grow and adaptable to diverse soil and climate conditions. Produces 5 1/2" fleshy round pod green beans. Boost yields and germination by adding inoculants. Direct sow 1.5" deep, 4-6" apart.

Germination: 6-10 days @ 70 - 75F

Maturity: 50 days

Source: Seedway

Seed saving: Beans generally do not cross-pollinate with other varieties but should be spaced at least 20ft apart from other varieties, with a minimum of 10 plants. Harvest when dried on the plant and pod is brown and crunchy to the touch.

Bush Bean, Roma

Phaseolus vulgaris

Distinctive rich flavor, smooth, wide pods on upright plants. Not cold tolerant, beans need warm soil of 65° or higher. Grows best in full sun with well-watered soil. Regular harvesting of the young pods will ensure a greater yield. Boost yields and germination by adding inoculants. Direct sow 1.5" deep, 4-6" apart.

Germination: 7-10 days @ 70 - 75F

Maturity: 59 days

Source: Seedway

Seed saving: Beans generally do not cross-pollinate with other varieties but should be spaced at least 20ft apart from other varieties, with a minimum of 10 plants. Harvest when dried on the plant and pod is brown and crunchy to the touch.

Pole Bean, Blue Lake

Phaseolus vulgaris

Blue Lake Pole beans yield much longer than bush beans, right up to frost. Plant at the base of poles, trellises or fences. Blue Lake pole beans have straight, 6-in. (15-cm) stringless pods that stay sweet and crisp even at full maturity. Direct sow 1" deep, 8-12" apart.

Germination: 8-16 days @ 70 - 75F

Maturity: 55 days

Source: Sustainable Seed Company

Seed saving: Beans generally do not cross-pollinate with other varieties but should be spaced at least 20ft apart from other varieties, with a minimum of 10 plants. Harvest when dried on the plant and pod is brown and crunchy to the touch.

Pole Bean, Yard Long Red Noodle

Vigna unguiculata

Vigorous 5-7' snap beans yield clusters of 7-10" stringless pods. Great flavor, an all-time favorite.

Direct sow 1" deep, 2-4" apart.

Germination: 8-16 days @ 70 - 75F

Maturity: 85 days

Source: Johnny's

Seed saving: Beans generally do not cross pollinate with other varieties but should be spaced at least 20ft apart from other varieties, with a minimum of 10 plants. Harvest when dried on the plant and pod is brown and crunchy to the touch.

**Limited quantity*

Pole Bean, Red-striped greasy

Phaseolus vulgaris

They are called greasy because they are hairless (no fuzz) and look shiny. Sow after last frost (late spring, usually mid to late May) in full sun. Beans do not need rich soil. The roots are shallow so water if weather is dry. Dual purpose; eat the young green pod like a snap bean, or shell beans (shellies) late summer and early fall. Then dry to use all winter. Direct sow 1" deep, 6-8" apart.

Germination: 10days @ 70 - 75F

Maturity: 75 days

Source: *Local saved: Christopher Quire*

Seed saving: Beans generally do not cross-pollinate with other varieties but should be spaced at least 20ft apart from other varieties, with a minimum of 10 plants. Harvest when dried on the plant and pod is brown and crunchy to the touch.

**This is for dedicated seed savers only, please inquire if you are interested.*

Black-eyed Pea, Queen Anne

Vigna unguiculata

Compact plants, this is a dependable and heavy producer. Yields 8 to 12 seeds per 7 to 9" pod. Plants are

compact, 26 " tall with no runners. Highly recommended for green shell or dry use, freezing, or canning.

Direct sow 1" deep, 2-3" apart.

Germination: 7-14 days @ 65 - 75F

Maturity: 68 days

Source: Seedway

Seed saving: Peas generally do not cross-pollinate with other varieties but should be spaced at least 20ft apart from other varieties, with a minimum of 25 plants. Harvest when dried on the plant and pod is brown and crunchy to the touch.

Pigeon Pea

Cajanus cajan

Pigeon pea is a multipurpose plant; edible, hedge/windbreak, trellis for other veggies, or grown for mulch. Pigeon pea can be eaten as garden peas or lentils. Pigeon pea is a perennial shrub that grows 5 to 7 ft tall, in a location that receives at least 4 hours of direct sunlight each day. Pigeon peas can be started indoors in a pot and then taken outside once the weather has warmed up. Direct sow or plant in trays 1" deep, leave plenty of space as plant will grow quite large.

Germination: 15-20 days @ 65 - 75F

Maturity: 70 to 150 days

Source: Local saved: Porters Farm

Seed saving: This pea will not cross-pollinate with anything else other than other pigeon pea varieties.

Harvest dried pods from the tree.

Legume Inoculant-Garden Combination for Beans and Peas

Treat your legume seeds prior to planting to encourage formation of high-nitrogen nodules on plant roots for richer soil, bigger plants, and better yields. Easy to use, just shake or stir with seeds before sowing. Note: Inoculants have annual expiration dates, so we always buy fresh to ensure viability. Keep refrigerated and away from sunlight right up until use.

[See here for more information.](#)

SQUASHES

Cucumber, Space Master

Cucumis sativus

Spacemaster cucumber is a very compact plant that produces excellent yields of green cucumbers in a small space. Great for small gardens with limited space. Produces 7-8" delicious cucumbers even though the vines are so small. Sow in fertile, well-drained soil after danger of frost, from spring to early summer, and again for late season in August/September. For hill culture, space 4-6 seeds in groups 4-6 feet apart. Sow seeds 6 inches apart in rows 3 feet apart if growing on a trellis or fence. Sow ½" deep.

Germination: 7-14 days

Maturity: 56 days @ 70 - 85F

Source: Sustainable Seed Company

Seed saving: Cucumbers are insect pollinated and will cross-pollinate with other cucumber varieties. Isolate by ½ mile or more, or hand-pollinate if growing more than one variety. Fruits must be allowed to over-ripen past edible stage on the vine, and process with the wet fermentation method.

Cucumber, Straight 8

Cucumis sativus

This heirloom variety produces 8" long fruits. Trellised cucumbers grow better. Sow seeds 6" apart in rows, or plant 5 or 6 seeds in groups (hills) 4 to 5' apart. Sow 1/2" deep.

Germination: 7-14 days @ 70 - 85F

Maturity: 56 - 58 days

Source: Sustainable Seed Company

Seed saving: Cucumbers are insect pollinated and will cross-pollinate with other cucumber varieties. Isolate by ½ mile or more, or hand-pollinate if growing more than one variety. Fruits must be allowed to over-ripen past edible stage on the vine, and process with the wet fermentation method.

Luffa Gourd

Luffa spp.

Luffa gourds are fun to grow for the sponges! Space the plants 12 ft apart and provide a strong trellis and plenty of room. The soil should be amended with plenty of finished compost as they are heavy feeders. Harvest when the fruit turns brown, remove skins by soaking them in water overnight, then peel and hang on a clothesline to dry. Direct sow or in trays about ½" deep, spaced 18" apart or more.

Germination: 7-21 days @ 75 - 85F

Maturity: 150 - 200 days

Source: Local saved: A.Houston and J. Stalling

Seed saving: Luffa gourds will cross-pollinate with other luffa varieties, but nothing else in the garden. Grow to full maturity, which shows when fruit's stem changes from green to brown or yellow. Place in a cool, dry location until completely dried, seeds will rattle inside and can be removed.

Watermelon, Sugar Baby

Citrullus lanatus

The standard of the icebox melons, Sugar Baby has been a staple at picnics for years. Vines grow to 6 feet and set 2-4 melons roughly 10 inches across. Direct sow or in trays ½-1" deep, 18" apart.

Germination: 7-12 days @ 75 - 85F

Maturity: 76 days

Source: Johnny's

Seed saving: Watermelons will readily cross-pollinate with other watermelon varieties, isolate by ½ mile with a minimum of 10 plants.

Summer Squash, Yellow Crookneck

Cucurbita pepo var. torticollia

Best yellow variety for buttery flavor and firm texture. Best picked small, 4-5" long. Plant early to beat the squash vine borers, consider using floating row covers to prevent these pesky moths from destroying your crop. . Squash need just-barely-damp soils to germinate. Too much moisture causes the seed to rot. All squash are monoecious (bearing separate male and female flowers on the same plant), and require bee and insect activity for successful pollination. Poor fruit set is often the result of poor pollination. Direct sow ½" deep, 24-36" apart.

Germination: 5-10 days

Maturity: 58 days @ 75 - 85F

Source: Alachua County Feed and Seed

Seed saving: Squash readily cross-pollinate with other squash of the same species (i.e. zucchini, acorn,

scallop, spaghetti), isolate by ½ mile with a minimum of 10 plants.

Summer Squash, Zucchini Black Beauty

Cucurbita pepo

Fruits are dark-green, turning black-green as fruit matures, semi-spineless, semi-upright, with an open growth habit. Flesh is white with small seed cavity. Freezes well. Plant early to beat the squash vine borers, consider using floating row covers to prevent these pesky moths from destroying your crop. Squash need just-barely-damp soils to germinate. Too much moisture causes the seed to rot. All squash are monoecious (bearing separate male and female flowers on the same plant), and require bee and insect activity for successful pollination. Poor fruit set is often the result of poor pollination. Direct sow ½" deep, 24-36" apart.

Germination: 5-10 days @ 75 - 85F

Maturity: 48 days

Source: Alachua County Feed and Seed

Seed saving: Squash readily cross-pollinate with other squash of the same species (i.e. zucchini, acorn, scallop, spaghetti), isolate by ½ mile with a minimum of 10 plants.

Winter Squash, Pattypan

Curbita pepo

A very ancient native American heirloom squash, grown by the northern Indians for hundreds of years. This type was depicted by Europeans back to 1591. The odd-looking pattypan is getting to be more popular with home gardeners. It's small, round and flat; great fried, baked and sautéed. Harvest when 4 inches.

Pattypan grow in a bush rather than as crawling vines, you have to space them out differently than you would with zucchini. Sow ½" deep. They don't work very well in hills, so plant them out in rows instead with about 3 to 4 feet between them. Like with indoor seedlings, seeds should be no more than an inch under the soil.

Germination: 7-10 days @ 75 - 85F

Maturity: 50 days

Source: Sustainable Seed Company

Seed saving: Squash readily cross-pollinate with other squash of the same species (i.e. zucchini, acorn, scallop, spaghetti), isolate by ½ mile with a minimum of 10 plants.

Winter Squash, Waltham Butternut

Cucurbita moschata

Most popular of butternuts, 3-6 lb fruit with rich, nutty, orange flesh and excellent storage. Vigorous vines and dependable production. Harvest when light tan and allow to cure for greater sweetness. Resistance to squash vine borers. Sow 1-2 seeds every 12" (24-36" for large-fruited varieties) ½ -1" deep. Thin to 1 plant per spot. Rows 6' apart, 12' apart for larger fruit.

Germination: 3-10 days @ 75 - 85F

Maturity: 95 days

Source: Johnny's

Seed saving: Squash readily cross-pollinate with other squash of the same species (i.e. cheese, golden cushaw, Seminole pumpkin and Calabaza), isolate by ½ mile with a minimum of 10 plants.

Seminole Pumpkin

Cucurbita moschata

A fabulous drought tolerant, insect resistant and vigorous growing pumpkin for our southeastern climate. The Native Americans not only cleared land for agriculture but they took advantage of the Seminole Pumpkin, which is a vigorous climber. They would plant it as the base of a dead oak tree and let the vine climb the tree and fruit off the ground. The plant would then grow all over the hammock reseeding itself. This plant REALLY spreads out. Don't plant in the garden or it will be the garden! It needs a LOT of room to climb. 20 ft long fence will work (maybe longer!) Direct sow ½ -1" deep or as transplants, set out with lots of room.

Germination: 7-14 days @ 75 - 85F

Maturity: 120 to 150 days

Source: *Local saved: various sources*

Seed saving: Squash readily cross-pollinate with other squash of the same species (i.e. cheese, golden cushaw, butternut and Calabaza), isolate by ½ mile with a minimum of 10 plants.

**This is for dedicated seed savers only, please inquire if you are interested.*

PEPPERS

Hot pepper, Jalapeno

Capiscum annum

Scoville Heat Units: 2,500 to 8,000

Plant produces high yields of 3 ¾" long by 1 ¼" wide Jalapeno hot peppers. Peppers are hot, have thick walls, and turn from glossy very dark green to red when mature. Plant has green stems, green leaves, and white flowers. Best when harvested when green. Excellent for making salsa and pickling. Transplant out after frost when the soil is warm and weather is settled. Sow ¼" deep in trays or pots, set transplants 12-18" apart in rows 24-36" apart. Pick the first peppers promptly when they reach full size to encourage further fruit set.

Germination: 10-14 days @75 - 85F, warming mats work wonders

Maturity: 70 days

Source: Sustainable Seed Company

Seed saving: While peppers are usually self-pollinating, it is not uncommon for them to cross-pollinate with other peppers, isolate by 100ft or more with a minimum of 10 plants.

Sweet pepper, Banana

Capiscum annum

Scoville Heat Units: 0

Bright yellow fruits are sweet, crunchy and about 4-6" long. Many folks eat them right out of the garden, but they are delicious pickled as well. Banana peppers get sweeter as they ripen. Sow seeds in trays or pots ¼" deep, and set out transplants 12-24" apart.

Germination: 10-14 days @70F. 75 - 85F, warming mats work wonders

Maturity: 65 days

Source: Sustainable Seed Company

Seed saving: While peppers are usually self-pollinating, it is not uncommon for them to cross-pollinate with other peppers, isolate by 100ft or more with a minimum of 10 plants.

Sweet pepper, Carolina Wonder

Capiscum annuum

Scoville Heat Units: 0

Introduced by SESE 1999, the best nematode-resistant bell for home gardeners. Foliage, fruits, and yields are very similar to California Wonder. This variety is a potentially valuable line for developing other nematode-resistant bell peppers. It is also less prone to developing fungus in the seed cavity. Sweet flavor even when green, red when mature. Sow seeds in trays or pots ¼" deep, and set out transplants 12-24" apart.

Germination: 10-14 days @75-85F, warming mats work wonders

Maturity: 75 days (pick Green or Red)

Source: Southern Exposure Seed Exchange

Seed saving: While peppers are usually self-pollinating, it is not uncommon for them to cross-pollinate with other peppers, isolate by 100ft or more with a minimum of 10 plants.

Sweet pepper, Chocolate

Capiscum annuum

Scoville Heat Units: 0

Sweet flavor with a hint of spiciness, fruits are large shiny brown, blocky-shaped chocolate-colored bells, 3- or 4- lobed. Adds an unusual color to salads. Has no "grassy" or "green" taste typical of peppers if harvested in the green stage. Unusual dark maroon interior fruit color. Extremely productive and disease resistant, this one of the easiest medium sweet bells to grow to full ripeness. Sow seeds in trays or pots ¼" deep, and set out transplants 12-24" apart.

Germination: 10-14 days @ 70F. 75 - 85F, warming mats work wonders

Maturity: 86 days

Source: Southern Exposure Seed Exchange

Seed saving: While peppers are usually self-pollinating, it is not uncommon for them to cross-pollinate with other peppers, isolate by 100ft or more with a minimum of 10 plants.

TOMATOES

Note: Indeterminate varieties will ripen staggered throughout the season, whereas determinate varieties will ripen uniformly in a short time.

Slicing, Arkansas Traveler

Solanum lycopersicum

Indeterminate

Pre-1900 heirloom grown throughout the South from northwest Arkansas to North Carolina. Arkansas Traveler is an old Southern heirloom much esteemed for its ability to produce flavorful tomatoes under conditions of drought and high heat where many other varieties fail. Medium-sized fruits are pink, and of wonderful flavor. Too much nitrogen after transplanting will delay flowering. High levels of phosphorus are necessary to produce good yields. Pruning and staking increase early fruiting at the expense of yield. Indeterminate varieties may be pruned if necessary. For largest yields, cages 2-1/2' wide by 5' tall are recommended for indeterminate varieties. Sow seeds in trays or pots ¼" deep, setting out transplants 18-24" apart.

Germination: 8-14 days @50 to 80F, warming mats work wonders

Maturity: 89 days

Source: Southern Exposure Seed Exchange

Seed saving: Tomatoes typically self-pollinate, so minimal isolation distances are needed. However, it is

always possible that cross-pollination could occur so isolate varieties as far apart as possible, with a minimum of 10ft and 10 plants. Tomato seeds must be fermented.

Slicing, Homestead

Solanum lycopersicum

Semi-Determinant

Strong plants with big leaves and firm meaty bright-red med-sized globes. Known to set fruit under a wide range of conditions making homestead a great all-purpose tomato. Excellent slicer or canning tomato. Does extremely well in HOT and HUMID conditions. Sow seeds in trays or pots ¼" deep, setting out transplants 24-36" apart.

Germination: 8-14 days@50 to 80F, warming mats work wonders

Maturity: 80 days

Source: Sustainable Seed Company

Seed Saving: Tomatoes typically self-pollinate, so minimal isolation distances are needed. However, it is always possible that cross-pollination could occur so isolate varieties as far apart as possible, with a minimum of 10ft and 10 plants. Tomato seeds must be fermented.

Cherry, Large Red Cherry

Solanum lycopersicum

Indeterminate

Red Cherry produces clusters of large red cherry tomatoes over a long season. Perfect for salads or just popping in your mouth when you're in the garden! Vigorous plants produce heavily over a long period. Sow seeds in trays or pots ¼" deep, setting out transplants 18-24" apart.

Germination: 8-14 days @50 to 80F, warming mats work wonders

Maturity: 75 days

Source: Sustainable Seed Company

Seed saving: Tomatoes typically self-pollinate, so minimal isolation distances are needed. However, it is always possible that cross-pollination could occur so isolate varieties as far apart as possible, with a minimum of 10ft and 10 plants. Tomato seeds must be fermented.

Cherry, Sungold (F1 hybrid)

Solanum lycopersicum

Indeterminate

Exceptionally sweet, bright tangerine-orange cherry tomatoes borne on vigorous plants that yield early and throughout the season. Tendency to split precludes shipping, making these an exclusively fresh-market treat. Sow seeds in trays or pots ¼" deep, setting out transplants 18-24" apart

Germination: 8-14 days @50 to 80F, warming mats work wonders.

Maturity: 65 days

Source: Johnny's

Seed saving: not recommended to save seed as this is a hybrid variety.

Cherry, Yellow pear

Solanum lycopersicum

Indeterminate.

Petite, distinctive salad tomato. The tall, vigorous vines bear quantities of small, lemon yellow, pear-shaped fruits with mild, low acid flavor. Clusters of 1–2 inches fruits proliferate all summer on tall, disease resistant

plants that need to be staked. Sow seeds in trays or pots ¼” deep, setting out transplants 18-24” apart

Germination: 8-14 days @50 to 80F, warming mats work wonders

Maturity: 75 days

Source: Johnny’s and Sow True Seeds

Seed saving: Tomatoes typically self-pollinate, so minimal isolation distances are needed. However, it is always possible that cross-pollination could occur so isolate varieties as far apart as possible, with a minimum of 10ft and 10 plants. Tomato seeds must be fermented.

EGGPLANT

Black Beauty

Solanum melongena var esculentum

Large, jet-black fruits set freely and quickly. Transplant when all danger of frost has passed. Sow ¼” deep in trays or pots, set out transplants 24-36” apart.

Germination: 10-15days @ @50 to 80F

Maturity: 80 days

Source: Sustainable Seed Company

Seed saving: Eggplants are self-pollinators and so minimal isolation distances are possible. However, it is always possible that cross-pollination could occur so isolate varieties as far apart as possible, with a minimum of 50ft and 10 plants. Fruits saved for seed should be allowed to over-ripen on the vine past edible stage, they should be dull, off-color and hard.

OKRA

Clemson Spineless

Abelmoschus esculentus

The standard variety in the south, cream-colored flowers are also edible and may be stuffed or used as garnish. An attractive ornamental, good in containers. Direct sow or in trays or pots, ½” deep, spaced 12-24” apart.

Germination: 10-14days @ 70F

Maturity: 60 days

Source: Sustainable Seed Company

Seed saving: Okra is a self-pollinating plant, but its large showy flowers attract pollinators and so crossing does occur with other okra varieties, so isolation distances must be observed. Isolate by at least 1/4 mile with a minimum of 10 plants. Fully mature pods can be picked and left to dry until they split open.

ONION

Wild foraged onion

Not available till May from Edible Plant Project.

RADISH

Easter Egg

Raphanus sativus

Easter egg radishes are perfect for a children's garden for two really good reasons: they grow VERY fast and produce amazing bright, happy colors that kids are just drawn to. It truly is like an underground Easter egg hunt. You don't know what color you are going to get till you pull them up! Direct sow ¼" deep, 6" apart.

Germination: 3-11 days @ 65 - 70 F

Maturity: 25 days

Source: Sustainable Seed Company

Seed saving: It is unlikely that your radishes will go to see in Florida, except for daikon radish.

GREENS

Arugula

Eruca sativa

Distinctive, sharp, peppery leaves, a nice accent for mixed salads. Greens past their prime may be lightly steamed with other greens or used in creamed soups. Will readily re-seed itself in the garden, coming back year after year if you allow. Can be direct sown in the ground, or started as transplants. Sow 1/4" deep, spaced 12-18" apart.

Germination: 5-7 days

Maturity: 40 days

Source: locally saved from Forage Farm, originally from Southern Exposure Seed Exchange

Seed Saving: Arugula will not cross-pollinate with anything other than other arugula varieties. Isolate varieties by ½ mile, grow 40 plants.

Amaranth red leaf

Amaranthus tricolor

Caribbean specialty green, comparable to spinach in flavor and often used in soups. Sow thinly, 12-15 seeds/ft., 1/8- 1/4" deep, in warm soil. Thin to 6" apart. Pick individual leaves; pinch off terminal buds to encourage branching.

Germination: 7 -14 days @ 70F

Maturity: 50 days

Source: Johnny's

Seed saving: Amaranth is wind-pollinated and will cross with other amaranth of the same species, large isolation distances required of 1 mile or more. If this is the only amaranth species you are growing, there are no concerns with cross-pollination. Abundant seeds are harvestable from the stalks as they mature.

Callaloo, Black

Amaranthus cruentus sp.

Amaranths are relatives of spinach and have a similar flavor. The leaves and young stems are cooked as a potherb. They grow fast and tall, and will produce seed even if most of the plant has been eaten. Amaranths are full of vitamins and minerals, and even some protein. The nutritious nature of these plants has not escaped the notice of just about every species of caterpillar, so you would be well advised to pick up a bottle of concentrated BT and a spray bottle to mix and spray the plants with if you encounter problems.

Germination: 2-3 days

Maturity: 30-40 days

Source: Local saved: Edible Plant Project

Seed saving: Amaranth is wind-pollinated and will cross with other amaranth of the same species, large isolation distances required of 1 mile or more. If this is the only amaranth species you are growing, there are no concerns with cross-pollination. Abundant seeds are harvestable from the stalks as they mature.

Egyptian spinach - Molokhiya

Corchorus olitorius

This fast-growing annual is a relative of jute, also known as Egyptian spinach, Jews mallow, Jute mallow, or saluyot. It grows up to ten feet tall, with a texture similar to that of okra, when cooked. The seeds are used as flavoring and an herbal tea is made from dried leaves. Leaves are rich in beta carotene, iron, vitamin C and antioxidants. Sow ¼" deep, spaced 12-18 inches apart.

Germination: 2-5 days

Maturity: 70 days

Source: Local saved: Edible Plant Project

Seed saving: Molokhiya will not cross with anything else in the garden. Dried pods form on the plant, the green angular seeds bursting open from the pods as they ripen.

India lettuce

Currently unavailable, please contact Edible Plant Project if you are interested.

Lamb's quarters

Chenopodium giganteum

A leafy green which tastes like very much like chard or spinach with a hint of asparagus when cooked. The best-tasting parts of the plant are the tender growing tips, which can be harvested continuously, the plant becoming bushy. A relative of quinoa, lamb's quarters has edible seeds which can be cooked or ground into flour. If a sufficient number of seeds are sown, it makes high quality green manure. It is resistant to many pests and is easy to grow. Can become weedy, be careful where you sow.

Germination: 14-21 days @ 70F

Maturity: 40-45 days

Source: Local saved: Edible Plant Project

Seed saving: Remove early flowering individuals, and then save seed by letting the seed stalks dry on the plant, then rub them into a bucket.

FLOWERS

Celosia, purple cockscomb

Celosia argentea

A stunning and long lasting garden flower that is wonderful in bouquets and irresistible to pollinators. The leaves are also edible and can be prepared like any cooked green.

Germination: 10 - 15 days @ 70 - 80F

Maturity: 90 days to flower

Source: Local saved: Edible Plant Project

Seed saving: Celosia will cross with other celosia of the same species. Seeds are very easy to save and abundant. After flower has been open for some time, it will dry out a bit on the bottom, still looking pretty in the garden. When you start to see black round seeds showing, harvest and dry until the seeds shake out. Or, let them self-sow in the garden.

Cosmos, yellow

Cosmos bipinnatus

Delicate yellow flowers on long, slender stems, are a magnet for every butterfly in the neighborhood to come pay its respects. Best in hot sunny locations, this plant thrives especially well in very well-drained soil that's on the sandy side and not too heavily fertilized. Sow thinly barely covering, 9-12" apart. Deadheading old flowers will encourage more blooms. Cosmos will re-seed themselves where they grow, but seeds can easily be saved.

Germination: 5-10 days @ 68-75° F

Maturity: 50 - 55 days to flower

Source: Local saved: Michele Gutierrez

Seed saving: Cosmos will cross-pollinate with other cosmos, so if pure seed is desired only one variety should be grown. After the flower dies, dried brown long seeds appear and can be picked off easily and dried down more.

Cosmos, Sensation Mix

Cosmos bipinnatus

Tall, wispy plants covered with large white, pink, rose and crimson flowers make excellent cut flowers.

Drought tolerant. Summer to fall blooming. Deadheading old flowers will encourage more blooms. Cosmos will re-seed themselves where they grow, but seeds can easily be saved.

Germination: 7 - 10 days. Above 60F

Maturity: 50 - 55 days to flower

Source: Johnny's

Seed saving: Cosmos will cross-pollinate with other cosmos, so if pure seed is desired only one variety should be grown. After the flower dies, dried brown long seeds appear and can be picked off easily and dried down more.

Marigold, Dwarf French

Tagetes patula

This marigold just keeps on blooming all summer long, bearing a profusion of showy double flowers in three colors. Keep the old flowers pinched off and it will just keep going till a killing frost. Very dependable, and recommended as a cover crop in an area with previous nematode problems. Excellent for borders, color or mass plantings. Direct sow or transplant 1/4" deep, spaced 8-16".

Germination: 7 - 10 days @ 70 to 75F

Maturity: 58 days

Source: Sustainable Seed Company

Seed saving: Marigolds will cross-pollinate with other marigolds of the same species, so if pure seed is desired only one variety should be grown. After the flower dies, dried long seeds appear and can be picked off easily and dried down more.

Marigold, Tall Orange

Tagetes erecta

Taller and more upright than French Marigolds, African Marigolds are easy to grow and thrive under hot, dry conditions. These aromatic plants brighten the garden with their cheerful shades of yellow, orange and maroon.

Germination: 7 - 14 days @70 - 75F

Maturity: 180 days (this marigold takes a long time and will start blooming in the early fall/late summer)
Source: Local saved: K. Gladdys
Seed saving: Marigolds will cross-pollinate with other marigolds of the same species, so if pure seed is desired only one variety should be grown. After the flower dies, dried long seeds appear and can be picked off easily and dried down more.

HERBS

Basil, Genovese

Ocimum basilicum

This Italian basil is one of the most aromatic of all basil. Gorgeous, large green leaves on 18-24" plants. A must for any kitchen garden. Direct seed after danger of frost. Full sun, annual.

Germination: 7 - 10 days

Maturity: 68 days

Source: Southern Exposure Seed Exchange

Seed saving: Basil varieties will cross-pollinate as they are frequently visited by insects. Isolate by 150ft and grow 10 plants. Dried seed pods from in a long stalk after flowering, and are easily collected but somewhat difficult to remove from the chaff.

Basil, Lemon

Ocimum basilicum var citriodorum

A narrow leaf basil native to Southeast Asia with a delightfully strong aroma and lemony flavor. Delicious with fish and in salad dressings. Flowering stalks can be added to bouquets to lend a wonderful lemony fragrance. A smaller leaf variety, reaching 15" tall.

Germination: 7 - 10 days

Maturity: 60 days

Source: Johnny's

Seed saving: Dried seed pods from in a long stalk after flowering, and are easily collected but somewhat difficult to remove from the chaff.

Catnip

Nepeta cataria

A beautiful delicate flower, great in arrangements, or to be fed dried or fresh to your favorite feline. Direct sow or transplant ¼" deep, 12-18" apart.

Germination: 7 - 10 days @ 60F or above

Maturity: 80 days

Source: Johnny's

Seed saving: After flowering when seeds have dried on the plant, remove dried flowers and shake off into a bucket to extract the seeds.

Dill, Bouquet

Anethum graveolens

Edible seeds and greens flavor many foods, a popular addition to sauces and a must for making pickles.

Foliage and are flower umbels wonderful in bouquets.

Germination: 7-21 days above 60F

Maturity: 40-55 days to leaf harvest; 85-105 days to seed/flower harvest

Source: Locally saved, Forage Farm and Johnny's

Seed saving: Dill will cross-pollinate with other dill varieties so should be isolated if pure seed is intended. After flowering occurs, loads of dried seeds will appear on the umbel and can easily be harvested.

Lemon Balm

Melissa officinalis

Lemon scented leaves are used in many herbal preparations and to make a delicious tea. Plants reach 24" tall and spread very easily. Easy-to-grow by direct seed or transplant. Full sun to partial shade. Perennial.

Germination: 12 - 21 days above 70F

Maturity: 70 days 12" apart

Source: Johnny's

Seed saving: Gather dried up flowers on the plant and rub between hands to remove seeds.

Perilla (Shiso Basil)

Perilla frutescens

Used extensively in Japan and all over Asia to season vegetables, rice, soups, fish, etc. The leaves make for exquisite decoration. It is finely sliced with ginger and added to salads, sautéed vegetables, sashimi, tempura and sushi. Perilla leaves are added to pickle jars to keep pickles crisp. Unique in floral arrangements. Direct sow or transplant, barely covering seed, spaced 12" apart. Plants grow very tall and wide.

Germination: 7 - 21 days

Maturity: 80-85 days

Source: Local saved: Forage Farm and M.Davision

Seed saving: Perilla varieties can be cross-pollinated with one another, so isolate by 150ft if growing more than one. After flowering, dried seed stalks can be removed, and seed rubbed loose.

Roselle

Hibiscus sabdariffa

Beautiful large shrub with showy flowers and edible red calyxes make a "zingy" tea, sauce, or jam. Roselle was called "Florida cranberry" in the 1890s and is still sometimes called sorrel or Jamaica sorrel. The creamy-white flowers and young leaves are edible and have a citrus tang. It is also grown in warmer areas as a thick ornamental annual hedge. Harvest the red calyxes anytime. Simmer them fresh or dried to make tea or jelly (they contain natural pectin).

Germination: 9 - 10 days

Maturity: Blooms when daylight is less than 11 hours. So it can go all summer growing before it blooms in late fall.

Source: Locally saved, Siembra Farm and Edible Plant Project

Seed saving: Roselle will cross-pollinate with other roselle varieties. Seeds are easy to save. After flowering, when the red fleshy calyx is left over, allow it to dry on the plant if possible. Or remove, calyxes from plant and peel off outer flesh for eating, and let the seed pods dry and crack open.