

HADLEY GARDEN CENTER SEED STARTING GUIDELINES

Sow outdoors and plant transplants outdoors only if the ground is workable

VEGETABLES

BEANS- Pole or Bush- Sow outdoors late May

Sow bush beans again late June- for second harvest

FAVA BEANS- Sow outdoors mid-late April

BEETS- Sow outdoors early-mid April

Sow indoors early March, plant out mid April

BROCCOLI- Sow indoors early-mid March, plant out mid-late April

BRUSSELS SPROUTS- Sow outdoors mid June

Sow indoors early March, plant out mid-late April

CABBAGE- Sow indoors early-mid March, plant out late April

Sow outdoors mid June for late season harvest

CARROT- Sow outdoors early-mid April

CAULIFLOWER- Sow indoors early-mid March, plant out mid-late April

Sow outdoors mid June for late season harvest

CELERY- Sow indoors early February, plant out late April or early May

CHARD- Sow outdoors mid-late April

CORN- Sow outdoors late May

CUCUMBERS- Sow outdoors late May

Sow indoors in peat pots late April, plant out late May

EGGPLANT- Sow indoors mid-late March, plant out late May

GARLIC- plant cloves October- November

KALE- Sow outdoors mid April and again late July for second harvest

Sow indoors early March, plant out mid-late April

LEEK- Sow indoors late January- late February, plant out mid April

LETTUCE- Sow indoors early March, plant out mid April

Sow outdoors early-mid April

MELON- Sow indoors in peat pots late April, plant out late May

Sow outdoors late May

ONION- Sow indoors mid February, plant out early-mid April

Sow outdoors early April

PARSNIP- Sow outdoors late March

PEA- Sow outdoors late March, early April

PEPPER- Sow indoors mid-late March, plant out late May

POTATO- Plant mid April

PUMPKIN- Sow indoors in peat pots late April, plant out late May

Sow outdoors late May

RADISH- Sow outdoors early-mid April

Sow outdoors again late May- for second harvest

SPINACH- Sow outdoors early-mid April

Sow indoors early March, plant out mid April

NEW ZEALAND SPINACH- Sow outdoors late May

SQUASH- Sow indoors in peat pots late April, plant out late May

Sow outdoors late May

TOMATO- Sow indoors early-mid April, plant out late May or early June

TURNIP- Sow outdoors early-mid April

HERBS

BASIL- Sow indoors early-mid April, plant out mid-late May

CILANTRO AND DILL- Sow outdoors late April

Sow indoors mid-late March, plant out late April

CHIVES, PARSLEY, SAGE, AND THYME- Sow indoors late June- early March, plant out late March-May

PERENNIALS- Sow indoors January-March, plant out March-May

ANNUALS

PANSIES- Sow indoors January-February, plant out March-April

IMPATIENS- Sow indoors February, plant out late May

ALYSSUM, BELLS of IRELAND, CALENDULA, LARKSPUR, NIGELLA, SNAPDRAGON, STOCK, AND SWEET PEA- Sow indoors early May, plant out mid-late April

Sow outdoors April

AGERATUM, COLEUS, PETUNIA, VERBENA, AND VINCA- sow indoors mid March, plant out mid-late May

CELOSIA, CLEOME, COSMOS, MARIGOLD, MORNING GLORY, NICOTIANA, AND ZINNIA- Sow indoors early-mid April, plant out mid-late May

Sow outdoors early May

SEED STARTING TIPS

Successful seed germination depends on three main things- warmth, light, and watering. In most cases, before the seeds germinate, temperatures of 70°-75°F are most crucial- so the seedling trays can be set on heating cables, mats, near a heater or woodstove, or any other warm area. As soon as the seedlings emerge light is most crucial. Usually a bright south facing window does not provide enough light, so fluorescent shop lights are often used. They should be kept on 14-16 hours per day and be placed 4" away from seedlings. Lastly, be careful not to overwater the seedlings- over watering leads to damping off disease and weak growth- it is okay to let the soil surface dry a little. Also, using a lightweight seed starting mix will help control overwatering problems.