POTATOES

- Plant in February in area that receives at least 6 hours of direct sunlight.
- Plant in well-drained, organic-rich, loose soil. Potatoes love an acid soil; mix in cotton bur compost.
- Select potatoes that have several eyes or sprouts.
- Small potatoes can be planted whole. Cut large potatoes into 3 or 4 sections, each section having at least 2 eyes or sprouts.
 Lay them out on a piece of paper for 5 days.
 When "calloused over", dust the sections with dusting sulfur to keep from rotting.
- Dig a trough 6 to 8 inches deep. Work in Redenta's Bone Meal and Redenta's Organic Fertilizer.
- Plant at least 8 to 12 inches apart. Cover with 3 inches of soil. Set aside remaining soil.
- When foliage emerges from soil and is 5 to 6 inches tall, throw about 3 to 4 inches of saved soil around the base of the plants. Do this again to the next 5 to 6 inches of stem growth. Continue to add an inch or so each week that the foliage grows.
- Keep deep soil around potatoes evenly moist. Mulch such as shredded leaves or compost helps retain moisture.
- When you see flowers, you know that potatoes are forming. Three weeks or so after flowering you can start harvesting baby potatoes from just underneath the soil.
- Full-sized mature potatoes are ready to harvest 2 to 3 weeks after the foliage has yellowed and started to die.
- If you are more of a lazy gardener (like we sometimes tend to be), just bury a whole small potato about 12 to 18 inches down in a large container or directly into the ground (if you have loose soil) and wait for it to emerge. This can take quite a while because they are buried so deep. Be patient!

ONIONS

• Plant February 15 to March 15 in area that receives 6 hours of direct sunlight.

- Plant in well-drained, organic-rich loose soil. Add Soil Mender Composted Cattle Manure. Work in Redenta's Bone Meal and Redenta's Organic Fertilizer at time of planting.
- Raised beds are perfect for onions.
- Use a short stick to make holes 3 to 4 inches apart and about 1 inch deep. Set in onion plants, firm them in and water to settle the soil.
- Rows should be 10 to 14 inches apart.
- If you want to use some of the onions as green onions, you can plant them as close as 2 inches apart and harvest every other one during the growing season.
- Keep onion plants evenly moist until they stop growing, and then try to let soil dry out.
- Full-size onions are ready to harvest when the tops fall over. Pull up and place in dry, protected area for several days.
- Store in a cool, dry location. Will keep for 2 or 3 months.

ASPARAGUS

- Plant in January and February at least 1 month before average last frost in welldrained, organic-rich, loose soil. Place at edge of garden where it can grow undisturbed.
- Space 12 to 18 inches apart, in rows 5 to 6 feet apart.
- Plant in trench 6 inches deep with crowns right-side up and spread out.
- Cover with no more than 3 inches of soil. When shoots start growing, gradually fill in around them an inch or two at a time until soil is 4 to 6 inches high and 2 feet wide over the crown.
- Harvest for 3 to 4 weeks the first year, 6 to 7 weeks the second year and 8 to 9 weeks the third year after planting.
- Keep weeded, mulched and evenly watered.
- Cut fern tops to ground after first hard frost. Mulch with composted cow manure.

SWEET POTATO SLIPS

Plant in April when soil is warm.

Plant in well-drained, organic-rich loose soil. Raised beds are perfect.

Make a wide raised ridge 8 to 12 inches high. "Set" plants about 12 inches apart. Plant preferably near sundown to avoid exposure to the hot sun. If weather or other conditions prevent immediate planting, place roots in wet, muddy soil in a shady spot or place roots in fresh, cold water.

Mulch to minimize weeds and keep soil moist.

Harvest when they appear to be the size you want. Use care in taking the potatoes from the ground, being careful not to bruise them.

After digging, dry potatoes thoroughly and then store at 55 to 60 degrees. Do not handle the potatoes again until you are ready to prepare them for the table.



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GARLIC POTATO ONION ASPARAGUS

Planting Guide

GARLIC

- Garlic is best planted in the fall. The green tops grow in winter and early spring. The bulbs develop under ground during the months of March, April and May.
- Plant in a sunny location. Cover the bulbs with 1 to 2 inches of soil. Space 6 to 8 inches apart. Mulch well.
- Feed with cottonseed meal or an organic granular fertilizer in the spring as soon as you see some green growth. Foliar feed with **Garrett Juice Pro** every 2 to 3 weeks. Stop fertilizing once bulbing begins.
- Garlic can be dug during the month of May generally after the green tops have mostly turned yellow. If you break the seed stalk off before it flowers, you will have larger cloves.



for the modern gardener

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