

How to Grow Pole Beans



PLANT TYPE: Annual

SCIENTIFIC NAME: Phaseolus vulgaris

LIGHT: Full Sun

SOIL TYPE: Medium-rich, well-drained, deep sandy loam

pH RANGE: 6.0 - 7.0

MOISTURE/WATERING: Average

MATURITY IN DAYS: 65 - 80

KNOWN PESTS: Black flies, aphids

KNOWN DISEASES: N/A

OVERVIEW:

Pole beans are among the few vegetables that add a sense of height to the garden. Pole beans can climb up stakes or fence supports, or even scale corn stalks. If growing space is limited, pole beans are the answer. While pole beans are planted later than snap beans, pole beans yield over a longer period of time and frequent picking encourages more production. Pole beans rarely need any assistance once they've started.

PROPAGATION / SOWING OF POLE BEANS:

Plant pole beans 2" deep on slight hills around poles or teepees spaced at 16" apart. Grow 4-8 seeds on each hill. Space pole beans 3" apart if growing on a fence. Sow after all danger of frost is over and the soil is warm, 18°C (65°F).

COMPANION PLANTING OF POLE BEANS:

Pole beans do well with carrot, corn, chard, pea, potato, eggplant. Avoid cabbage & onion family.

CARE & GROWING OF POLE BEANS:

Pole beans prefer an area with full sun and a rich, deeply worked soil with a pH level of 6.5. Pole beans are light feeders. The poles, teepees or a trellis should be erected after 2-4 leaves have developed. Hoe to kill weeds. A mulch of compost, or straw is beneficial to control weeds and hold moisture. Keep the plants well watered in dry weather, especially if they are grown on an upright trellis or poles against a shed or house where soil tends to dry out.

HARVESTING OF POLE BEANS:

Pick young, full size pods when smooth and crisp. Pole beans pods are over mature once the beans start to form. Harvest pole beans regularly for a constant supply. Scarlet Runner Pole beans will

produce abundant, gorgeous red flowers if the beans are continually picked.