

Broccoli

Broccoli thrives in cool weather. It is very productive, sending out side-shoots after the main head is cut.

PLANTING: Put out transplants 1-2' apart. Spring-maturing types in March and April, late and over-wintering types in late summer and early fall.

CULTURE: There are two types of broccoli; one is the standard with single, large, compact heads commonly seen at markets. The other is the oldest variety called sprouting broccoli that produces many small, shoots.

FERTILIZING: Amend your soil with lots of organic matter, thereby creating a loamy, moisture-retaining medium that broccoli thrives in. A good compost or steer manure will do just fine.

HARVESTING: Cut the larger, central heads before completely mature first; this encourages side shoots to form and mature and increases harvest size and lengthens harvest size.

STORAGE: Broccoli is best eaten fresh. Freezing is also an option, look for varieties that hold well in freezing.

CAUTION: Practice crop rotation to prevent disease and pests from becoming a problem every year. Watch out for aphids and knock them off plants as soon as spotted.

SOME BROCCOLI VARIETIES:

| NAME | DESCRIPTION | *DTM |
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| 'Early Dividend' | Earliest variety, bears medium-size heads, then quickly produces 3-4" secondary heads. | 46 |
| 'Green Comet' | Deep green, 6-7" heads with small, tight buds. Good heat and disease resistance. | 55 |
| 'Packman' | Dark green, 9" wide, tight, uniform heads w/large beads. 27" tall. Delicious and excellent for freezing. Early & dependable. | 55 |
| 'Premium Crop' | Blue-green, long-lasting, tight heads. 8" tall. Excellent quality. | 65 |
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***DAYS TO MATURITY**