



WINDMILL
Gardens

Garlic: Growing and Harvesting

In the garden, garlic makes a tasty addition to any herb and vegetable garden. It also makes a great companion crop to help repel insects such as aphids and cabbageworm.

Garden Preparation:

Garlic prefers well-drained, moderately-fertile soil in a sunny garden spot.

Raised beds are ideal, as the water drains quickly and the soil warms earlier in the springtime.

Amend the soil with compost if necessary and work in a high phosphorus fertilizer such as bone meal or bulb food.

Planting: Fall is the best time to plant garlic

-Just before planting, break apart each bulb of garlic into its individual cloves, trying to keep as much skin on the cloves as possible.

-Poke your finger into the soil about two inches.

-Drop the clove in pointy side up, cover the hole and pat firmly.

-Space the next clove 5 inches further down the row. (Plants should grow 5" apart in rows 15-18" apart)

-Elephant garlic cloves, plant 10" apart

-Water the buried cloves well.

Growing:

-In the spring, when the green tips begin to emerge, the garlic should be side-dressed with an organic garden fertilizer.

-During the spring and summer, keep garlic mulched and free of weeds.

Harvesting:

-When the tops turn yellow in early summer, stop watering. Allow the bulbs to cure in the soil for 2 weeks and then harvest the garlic by pulling the whole plant out of the soil and tying the leaves together. Allow the bulbs to dry on a rack in a warm dry spot.

Garlic leaves can be braided into a long beautiful edible decoration for your kitchen