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GROWING GARLIC

Garlic must be planted early in Ohio (March or April) to permit full development. It may also be planted in fall for harvest the following summer.

Garlic grows best in loamy soils that are fertile and high in organic matter. The culture is similar to growing good onions. **Do not** divide the bulbs into cloves until you are ready to plant as early separation may result in decreased yields. Plant garlic cloves 3 to 5 inches apart in an upright position in the row, setting them at a depth of 1/2 inch to 1 inch deep and allow 18 to 30 inches between rows. Garlic does best when fertilized in spring and early summer. Do not fertilize after early July. The soil must be kept evenly moist as dry soil will cause irregular-shaped bulbs. A mulch of straw or untreated grass clippings is helpful to suppress weeds and retain soil moisture.

Bulbs may be harvested when the tops start to dry, which is usually in August. Bulbs should be dug up rather than pulled to avoid stem injury. The tops should be allowed to dry. After bulbs have dried, the tops and roots can be removed with shears to within an inch of the bulbs. The mature bulbs are best stored under a cool, 32 degree temperature at 65 to 70 percent relative humidity. Garlic stores well under a wide range of temperatures but sprouts most quickly at temperatures near 40 degrees. Cloves should keep for six to seven months. It is essential that the garlic be well cured before going into storage.



***Making the world beautiful
one flower at a time.***