



Advanced Vegetable Gardening

A successful vegetable garden is not an accident



Scouting

- Check your garden for pests and issues.
- Make it a habit, at least a few times per week.
- Early mornings are best for spotting active insects.
- Watch leaf color and shape to help diagnose nutrition issues.
- Look for signs of insects like holes in leaves, curled leaves, or chewed edges of leaves.
- Look for signs of disease like brown or black spots, grey or silver leaf color, or areas of rot.
- Finding problems early allows for easier treatment and better results.
- Watch for beneficial insects and allow them to do their work.

Common Garden Pests

- Aphids
- Whitefly
- Leaf Miner
- Tomato Hornworm
- Armyworm
- Mealybug
- Cabbage Loopers

Beneficial Insects

- Assassin Bugs
- Ladybugs
- Lacewings
- Ground Beetles
- Praying Mantis
- Spiders
- Bees

A Little Bit About Tomatoes

- Indeterminate or vining tomatoes harvest over a long period.
- Determinate or bushing tomatoes harvest at one time.
- VFN – These letters indicate resistance to disease and nematodes.
- Suckering – remove suckers from plants so that there are 2 – 3 stems.
- Water 1 – 2 inches per week. Deep soakings are better than frequent light irrigation. Always water in the morning. Water more frequently when hot and when plants are new.
- Plant deeper than the soil level (this is one of the only times we will say this!).
- Tomato pollen loses its vitality above 93 degrees.
- Blossom-end rot – Add lime before planting, spray with a calcium spray if needed.
- Blossom drop – night temperatures too high or too low, too much shade or water.
- Fruit Split – too much water, usually after a dry period.