

Strawberries

DID YOU KNOW
THAT A SINGLE
STRAWBERRY CAN
HAVE OVER 200
SEEDS?

WHICH STRAWBERRIES TO PLANT

Strawberries are one of the most popular berries on the market. Their tasty flavor and smooth texture have made them a favorite of young and old. Did you know that there are actually two types of strawberries- everbearing (more technically referred to as day-neutral) and June bearing. Everbearing strawberry plants will produce consistently throughout spring and summer, only stopping when the first frost hits. June-bearing strawberries, on the other hand, produce a single crop in the spring.

PLANTING INSTRUCTIONS

Strawberries can either be planted in the fall or in the spring, depending on how cold it gets in your USDA zone. Before planting, trim the roots back about 1 inch. Then soak the plants in water for 15-20 minutes. Plant immediately. Leave approximately 8-12 inches between plants and 2-3 feet between rows. You can amend your soil with organic compost and fertilize your plants with an organic fertilizer.



CARE AND HARVESTING

After planting, be sure to water your strawberries regularly. This plant loves frequent, deep waterings. Give the strawberries a few days to dry out before watering again. The top inch of soil should dry out before further watering. If weeds try to grow up around the plant, use hay, wood chips, straw, or even organic compost to keep them back. Strawberries are heavy feeders. You will need to fertilize your plants with an organic fertilizer once every week or two in the fruiting season. Strawberry plants will send out runners to propagate into new plants. This isn't harmful to the plants, but keep in mind that if you choose to let them propagate, this will prohibit your plant from putting off fruit until the next season. You can eliminate runners easily by clipping them back, and discarding the plant material. Strawberries will not ripen after they have been picked, so it is important to wait to harvest your fruit until they are fully ripened and ready to eat.

SHOULD I CHOOSE AN EVERBEARING VARIETY OR A JUNE-BEARING VARIETY?

Often there is much confusion around whether to plant an everbearing or June-bearing strawberry variety. The most important thing to consider when choosing a strawberry is how long and hot your summers generally are. Everbearing strawberries will stop producing if they experience an extremely hot summer. As a result, in places with long, hot summers, June-bearing strawberries are typically a better choice as they will fruit before the summer gets too hot. However, in places with cooler summers, everbearing strawberries will continue to produce all summer long, so these are a great choice.

EVERBEARING VARIETIES

Albion
Monterey
Ogallala
Ozark Beauty
Portola
Quinault
San Andreas
SeaScape
Sequoia
Sweet Anne
Tribute

JUNE-BEARING VARIETIES

Allstar
Camarosa
Camino Real
Cardinal
Chandler
Festival
Fronteras
Honeoye
Petaluma
Stella
Sweet Charlie

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