



Melon

Planting from Seed

When to start seeds indoors: 1-2 weeks before spring frost date

Earliest date to transplant hardened off seedlings:

2 weeks after spring frost date

Days of Germination: 3-10 days (in optimal conditions)

Planting in the Garden

Recommended garden type and methods: field grown, strawbale, trellis, melons require large space to sprawl. Like warm conditions, keep well watered, do not disturb roots.

Spacing: 2'-3' apart, rows 6' apart

Companion plants: Beans/peas, onions, flowers

Harvesting

1 seed = 2-4 watermelons, 3-8 muskmelons, cantaloupe

Days to Harvest: 70-90 days depending on variety

Directions: Melons are ready to harvest when they start turning yellow on the underside and the stem and tendrils start turning brown or stems crack. The blossom end will feel softer to the touch. Protect from the sun. Store melons uncut, dry and cool (50' for watermelon, 40' for other melons). Wash, according to food safety manual, before cutting.

Use in the Kitchen

Preparation: Wash, treat as TCS food, remove from rind, chop into bite-size pieces

Menu Planning Ideas: Raw, grill, add to salads and salsa

Suggested Flavor Enhancers: Mint, ginger



The Lifecycle of Farm to School

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