

## GROWING GUIDE FOR TURNIP

<b>Binomial Name:</b>	Brassica
<b>Varieties:</b>	Ideal Purple Top Milan, Purple Top White Globe, White Egg, Golden Globe
<b>Start:</b>	Seed or seedling
<b>Germination:</b>	4 - 7 days, 4°C to 30°C
<b>Seed Life (viability):</b>	4 years
<b>Soil:</b>	Well drained
<b>Sunlight:</b>	Full sun, part shade
<b>Sow Seeds:</b>	3cm apart
<b>Transplant/Thin to:</b>	10 - 15cm apart
<b>Ave. Days to Harvest:</b>	50 - 60
<b>Good Companions:</b>	Peas
<b>Bad Companions:</b>	

Fast-growing spring turnip crops are best harvested while the weather is still cool. The flavour of autumn crops is improved by light frost. Don't forget the greens which are delightful raw or cooked.

### Sowing & Planting:

Prefers well-drained, fertile soil high in organic matter and with a pH 6.0 to 7.5. Can tolerate slightly alkaline soil. Needs plentiful, consistent moisture. Loosen soil deeply or grow in raised beds to encourage good root development. Will tolerate less-than-ideal conditions but poor soil will slow growth and hurt quality and flavour.

From early spring to late summer, sow seeds 5mm to 1cm deep, 3cm apart in rows 30 to 45cm apart. Thin plants to 10 to 15cm spacing's. Plant every 2 weeks for continuous harvest. Quality and flavour are best if harvested when weather is cool.

### Growing:

Use floating row cover to protect crop from early pests. To help reduce disease, do not plant turnips or other cole crops in the same location more than once every three or four years.

### Harvesting:

Harvest turnips from one to two months after sowing seeds. Harvest turnip leaves for greens before the roots are ready. Cut the outer leaves, refrigerate unwashed and use as soon as you can. Leave some greens on top to keep root alive. Loosen the soil around turnip roots when they reach 5 to 8cm wide. Pull roots from the soil and twist off the tops, leaving about 1cm of stem. Store turnips in a cool damp place, unwashed, for up to three months.