

Bean Bush

“Tendergreen”, “Contender” and “Blue Lake” Varieties

PLANTING GUIDE

HOW TO PLANT:

1. **Remove any weeds from the bed** (trowels & gloves in Garden Box-see map).
2. **Discuss where your two vegetables will be planted with respect to sunlight.** Our bush beans can approach 24 inches tall and do not require a trellis. Plant on north or east side of your garden plot.
3. **Determine where and how many rows you will plant.** Most plots will only accommodate 1, maybe 2 rows of beans. Space rows 18-24” apart. If planting two rows, then alternate hole spacing. - _ - _ - Consider where your rows will be relative to the drip irrigation lines, which should be arranged to provide even watering.
4. **Depth of hole.** Each hole should be 1” deep (~down to the second knuckle). Students may use the trowel or preferably the popsicle stick to make a small hole.
5. **Hole spacing.** Make holes about 4” apart (~ length of their hand).
6. **Seeds per hole.** Add one bean seed per hole and gently cover with soil.
7. **Mark your hole.** Place the popsicle stick near the seed (no need to write names). Sticks tell us where we need to pay attention (i.e. watch for seedlings and where NOT to step).
8. **Water the beds (if desired) using watering can or hose (see garden map).** The drip irrigation system will provide water on a regular basis so it is not necessary. Show kids where the holes are in the irrigation lines.
9. **Clean and return any used trowels and gloves to the Garden Box.** Please keep gloves together in pairs as found.

MONITORING:

1. **Appearance of seedlings.** Seedlings should appear in 4-10 days.
2. **Observe your plants regularly.** Watch growth, appearance of flowers and eventually beans.
3. **Insects.** Look for insects that might pollinate the flowers, lay their eggs on the leaves or even eat the leaves. Share your observations!

HARVEST:

- ~ 50-58 days post planting to harvest
- Teachers and Garden Liaisons should remain in contact with each other for periodic updates and eventually the HARVEST!

Note: Beans should keep producing for a few weeks after the first harvest and are ready to pick every few days if class desires. Pick beans before they get too big so they will not be too "stringy."