

TURNIP

“Purple Top White Globe” Variety

PLANTING GUIDE

Fun Fact: This variety has been around since the 1880's and is still popular today.

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.** Tall plants can create afternoon shade. How can we plant so that both veggie types receive good sun? Divide your plot in half. Plant the tall veggies on the north side of your plot if possible.
3. **Row spacing.** Most plots will accommodate 1-2 rows of turnips. **Space rows 12” apart.** Consider where your rows will be relative to the drip irrigation lines, which should be arranged to provide even watering.
4. **Seed depth.** Use a trowel to make a shallow trench (**1/4” deep**). Be careful not to dig too deeply.
5. **Seed spacing.** Packet directions suggest **2 seeds every 1”**. HOWEVER, due to the small size of the seeds, I suggest mixing the seeds into a plastic cup with soil from the bed. Stir with popsicle stick. Have students take turns gently pouring soil (with mixed seeds) along the trench.
6. **Mark your rows.** Place a craft stick at both ends to mark each row. Sticks tell us where we need to pay attention (i.e. watch for seedlings and where NOT to step).
7. **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.
8. **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 **5-10 days**.
2. **Thin seedlings** (once 1/2” tall) to **1 every 3-5” – DO NOT THIN IF GROWING SOLEY FOR GREENS**
3. **Observe your plants regularly.**
4. **Insects.** Look for insects that might munch on the leaves!

HARVEST:

- **~ 50 days (Purple Top White Globe Turnip)** post-planting to harvest
- Teachers and Garden Liaisons should remain in contact with each other for periodic updates and eventually the HARVEST!
- Greens and root can be eaten! According to Botanical Interests seed company. “For the most tender turnip, harvest when roots are no larger than 2" in diameter; however, a 3" root will still be of quite good quality. If allowed to grow larger, up to 6", the quality will not be the best for raw use, but will be fine for cooking. If sown for baby greens, harvest greens at 2"–4" tall. Harvesting no more than 25% of the plant's leaves at a time will not affect the plant's ability to produce large roots.”
- Harvest BEFORE hard frost (or cover).

<https://www.botanicalinterests.com/product/turnip-purple-top-white-globe-organic-heirloom-seeds/srch:turnip>