



Continued Care and Hardening Seedlings Off



Continued Care:

1. Keep seedlings moist but not soaking wet and always in plenty of sun. Listen to your plants! If the leaves are wilting, check to see if the soil is too dry **OR** too wet. If too wet, try to drain any excess or standing water and let the medium dry out before watering again. Room temperature water is best. Cold water is not fantastic.
2. Rotate seedlings so that they grow straight.
3. Transplant into gradually larger containers (with drainage!) and plant tomatoes and peppers deep to encourage strong roots.
4. As they get tall enough, provide support for your seedlings. (Sarah D. tends to use bamboo skewers as support sticks and plant velcro to provide support for spindly young seedlings.)
5. Fertilize! You'll have to do this regularly to provide nourishment for your growing friends.

Hardening Seedlings Off:

1. This is the trickiest part about seedling success! It is challenging anywhere, but Colorado can be particularly mean due to the intensity of the sun, Spring winds, late frosts/snow, and other factors.
2. Roughly 2 weeks before you plan to plant outside, you will need to **harden off*** your seedlings, otherwise the shock will likely kill them. Follow the link below for general hardening advice (or contact us with questions).
3. For Colorado Springs, we recommend **holding off** until the **last week of May or the beginning of June** before planting outside to hopefully avoid any late frosts that will kill your young plants. Online, the experts often list the "safe date" for planting outside as the early-mid part of May, but many of us who have grown gardens in the Springs before have been bitten by a late frost or snowstorm. If you start your seedlings inside early enough and properly size them up, they should be quite large and strong by the time it is safe to plant outside, which will help mitigate the later, outside planting date.

<https://www.botanicalinterests.com/product/5-Steps-to-Harden-Off-Seedlings> (For step 2, I would bring them back inside after their hours outside, if possible, for the first few days so that they don't get too stressed.)

**Harden off = acclimating a pampered seedling to outside conditions by slowly introducing it. Usually done over a period of 1-2 weeks.*

Side Note:

While certainly not required, if you are planning on having a garden in future seasons, it may not be a bad idea to invest in decent hail fabric. While it can be pricey initially, this fabric does provide just a smidge of shade that helps with Colorado's intense sun, and also helps protect all the hard work you put into growing your seedlings.

If you have any questions, contact the library at 719-391-3196 or
spl@wsd3.org.

Good luck, have fun, and happy gardening!!!

(P.s. Let us know how you're doing throughout the season! Send us pictures, post on Facebook, or stop by the desk! 😊)



Seed Starter Instructions



Containers:

- ☞ Size matters and it's best to start small!
- ☞ Some possible options: 3oz plastic cups (e.g. "bathroom rinse cups"), eggshell halves, egg crates. Be creative—you don't need anything fancy!
- ☞ Avoid large containers as they (1) waste starter mix (which does not contain any nutrients for your plants), (2) do not encourage strong roots**.

***As your seedlings grow, it is important to re-pot in gradually larger containers. This encourages strong roots and stems, often provides nutrients, and acclimates the fragile seedlings to heavier potting mediums. Seedlings like tomatoes and peppers benefit GREATLY from being repotted deeply, meaning that when you size up the pot, it looks like you are burying the seedling "up to its neck" with the leaves about 2-3 inches above the dirt. Tomatoes and peppers can sprout roots all along their stem, so when they are buried like this, you get a really strong root system which is crucial to a healthy, productive plant! (Sarah D.'s go-to "re-pot" size is 18oz "Solo" cups with holes drilled in the bottom.)*

Drainage:

- ☞ None of the seed options provided enjoy "wet feet", which means that while the growing medium needs to remain damp, it is important that it never becomes soggy or waterlogged. This leads to rot. Do not let it get bone dry, either.
- ☞ Poke several holes in the bottom of your chosen containers with a nail, screw, or pin to encourage drainage of excess water.

Humidity, Temperature & Light:

- ☞ "Colorado" and "humidity" are not words often used in the same sentence! However, your seeds will appreciate some good humidity to encourage them to sprout and grow.
- ☞ You can make your own greenhouse by placing containers in a clear plastic tub or even a plastic pastry container from the grocery store.



- ☞ Just remember to occasionally (e.g. every other day or every few days) pop open the lid for an hour or so to allow fresh air to circulate and some of the damp to evaporate. This helps prevent (but does not always eliminate) mold or rot from forming. Keep the lid off permanently once the seedlings grow tall enough to reach the lid.
- ☞ Temperature and light: Until they sprout, light does not matter to your seeds, but warmth and an area relatively free of drafts are important. Once your seeds sprout, keep them warm and give them as much light as possible, rotating the containers frequently to encourage straight growth.

The Planting!

- ☞ Dampen seed starter mix (not soaking), fill chosen containers about 2/3 full, and tamp down lightly. If mix is too wet, squeeze out before placing in containers.
- ☞ Plant seed at required depth (see information packet) for that variety. Make sure that you label your containers! (Sarah D. likes to write on hers with a permanent marker. Since she reuses the cups each year, she just cross out last year's name and writes new.)
- ☞ Place labeled containers in your handy, dandy, homemade greenhouse(s).
- ☞ Keep in a warm location and keep seedlings damp but not soaked until they sprout.
- ☞ After sprouting, remove lid of greenhouse permanently once the seedlings touch it, and place in a warm location that gets plenty of sunshine!
- ☞ Fertilizing: As your seedlings grow, it is helpful (and, honestly, necessary) to fertilize them to encourage strong growth and healthy development. You can research a variety of appropriate fertilizers online.

Seed Starter Kits 2024

Burrell's Special Tomato



Burrell's Special (*Solanum lycopersicum*)
75 days from transplants.
Large uniform slicing tomato developed by Burrell's seed company of Rocky Ford, Colorado. Good shipper, excellent flavor and demonstrated ability to set fruit in hot weather. Determinate.
Grown by Hobbs & Meyer Farms, Certified Organic.

TOMATO POLE CHERRY *Gardener's Delight*

Solanum lycopersicum



Botanical INTERESTS:

\$1.89
30 seeds
FROST SENSITIVE
65 DAYS from transplanting after last chance of spring frost
INDETERMINE

HEIRLOOM
The name says it all. Also called 'Sugar Lump', these bite-sized, wonderfully sweet, flavorful fruits are truly a delight!

TOMATO

Gardener's Delight



Seeding

Days to Emerge: 5 - 10 Days
Seed Depth: 1/8"
Seed Spacing: A group of 3 seeds every 24" - 36"
Row Spacing: 36"
Thinning: When 2" tall, thin to 1 every 24" - 36"
Maturity: 65 Days from transplanting
Date Seed Sown

Pop a few of these sweet delights in your mouth while gardening! Reviews have proclaimed this 1950s German heirloom the best cherry tomato; extra sweet and packed with flavor. Produces many clusters of 6-12 tomatoes all summer until frost. Vigorous vines easily reach 6' long. This packet yields approximately 24 plants when started indoors.

When to sow outside: For mild climates only. 1 to 2 weeks after your average last frost date, and when soil temperature is at least 60°F.

When to start inside: RECOMMENDED. 4 to 6 weeks before transplanting, or warmer, usually 1 to 2 weeks after your last average frost date. Ideal soil temperature for germination is 70°-90°F.

Get out for plant cut

OPEN POLLINATED AND UNTREATED



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TOMATO BUSH *Glacier*

Solanum lycopersicum



Botanical INTERESTS:

\$1.89
30 seeds
FROST SENSITIVE
55 DAYS from transplanting after last chance of spring frost
SEMI-DETERMINATE TYPE

Enjoy the sweetness of summer from spring to fall. Extremely cold-tolerant variety from Sweden produces great-tasting fruits earlier than other varieties.

TOMATO

Glacier



Seeding

Days to Emerge: 5 - 10 Days
Seed Depth: 1/4"
Seed Spacing: A group of 3 seeds every 24"
Row Spacing: 36"
Thinning: When 2" tall, thin to 1 every 24"
Maturity: 55 Days from transplanting
Date Seed Sown

'Glacier' will be one of your first ripe tomatoes of the season and one of your last tomatoes too! Particularly adapted to cooler climates, this 30" tall plant sets fruit earlier and in cooler temperatures than other varieties, and continues to produce 2" flavorful slicers throughout the season. Enjoy fresh garden tomatoes longer than ever! This packet yields approximately 24 plants when started indoors.

When to sow outside: For mild climates only. 1 to 2 weeks after your average last frost date, and when soil temperature is at least 60°F.

When to start inside: RECOMMENDED. 4 to 6 weeks before transplanting, or warmer, usually 1 to 2 weeks after your average last frost date. Ideal soil temperature for germination is 70°-90°F.

Get out for plant cut

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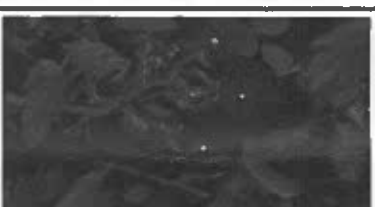
PEACEVINE

CHERRY

TOMATO

(SOLANUM

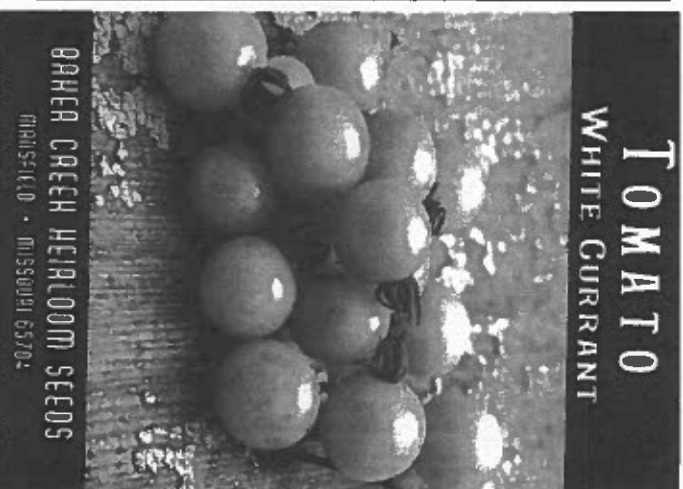
LYCOPERSICUM)



Peacevine is an exceptional cherry tomato. Very high in Vitamin C and gamma-aminobutyric acid, which is a natural nervous system sedative. Sweet and tart flavor, very prolific.
Grown by Hobbs & Meyer Farms, Certified organic.

PUEBLO SEED CO.

TOMATO WHITE CURRANT



BAKER CREEK HEIRLOOM SEEDS

010151010 • 01550101 65702

(*Solanum lycopersicum*)

WHITE CURRANT TOMATO

Super-sweet, tiny fruit, barely 1" across. In creamy white-pale yellow. Superb, sweet flavor!

PLANTING INSTRUCTIONS

Start indoors 6-10 weeks before last frost. Heat mat helps to warm soil and speed germination.

More details at rareseeds.com

PACKED BY

Baker Creek Heirloom Seed Co.

2278 Baker Creek Road • Mansfield, MO • 65704

Telephone: 417-924-8917 • rareseeds.com

Request our free heirloom seed catalog. Featuring amazing non-GMO heirloom vegetables, flowers, and herbs in brilliant color! Visit our company, planter village, and farm near Mansfield, Missouri.



TW104

Find us on Facebook for updates and more.

Sprouts In	7-14 days
Ideal Temp	75-95°F
Seed Depth	1/8 inch
Plant Spacing	24" apart
Frost Hardy	NO
Min Full Sun	8-12 hrs

CORNO DI TORO (CAPSICUM ANNUUM)



Corno di Toro (Capsicum annuum)
85 days.

HEIRLOOM. Red Italian sweet pepper with 6-8" fruits. Great specialty pepper for roasting, grilling, stuffing, frying, saucing, and fresh eating. Edible when green, but flavors really develop when it turns red. Very prolific.
Grown by Hobbs & Meyer Farms. Certified organic.

PUEBLO SEED CO.

Corno di Toro

~30 seeds | Lot:HPFCDT15
Red Italian sweet pepper with 6-8" fruits. Great roasting and stuffing. Start transplants 6-8 weeks before planting date. Planting depth ¼". Plant spacing 12-18". 85 days. Packed for 2022

PEPPER @HILE JALAPEÑO Early Jalapeño

Capsicum annuum



\$2.29
400 mg

FROST SENSITIVE
63 DMS from transplanting
Sow after last chance of spring frost

HEIRLOOM
An abundance of flavorful peppers come early on this sturdy plant. Enjoy raw, pickled, or stuffed! Recipe inside this packet.

Botanical INTERESTS.



PEPPER Early Jalapeño



Seedling

Days to Emergence: 10 - 25 Days
Seed Depth: ¼"

Seed Spacing: Start indoors
Row Spacing: 24" - 36"

Thinning: Start indoors, plant seedlings 18" - 24" apart outside

Maturity: 63 Days from transplanting
Date Seed Sown:

Lots of bold flavor in a small, 3" pepper, 'Early Jalapeño' is better adapted to cooler climates than other jalapeños. Incredibly versatile, they're hot enough to add a little kick to your favorite dish, but mild enough for any meal. Enjoy green or allow to ripen to red for a sweeter, bolder flavor. Jalapeños rate 2,500-5,000 Scoville heat units (medium hot). *This packet sows up to 56 plants when started indoors.*

When to sow outside: For mild climates only, 2 to 4 weeks after your average last frost date, when soil temperature is at least 70°F.

When to start inside: **RECOMMENDED** 8 to 10 weeks before transplanting. Ideal soil temperature for germination is 70°-90°F. Transplant seedlings outside 2 to 4 weeks after your average last frost date, and when daytime temperatures are at least 70°F, and nighttime temperatures are at least 55°F. **Mild Climates:** Can also sow in late summer for fall/winter crop.



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Certified Organic by the Colorado Dept. of Agriculture

Sweet (75 days)
Sunbright Golden Bell PEPPER
\$2.09
Net Wt 300 mg



HEIRLOOM

LAKE VALLEY SEEDS



Sunbright Golden Bell PEPPER

Capsicum annuum

Sunbright is a California Wonder type sweet pepper that turns from green to bright golden yellow. Its stocky plants with glossy, deep-green leaves produce an abundant crop of 4-5" fruits.

SEED DEPTH ¼" (6mm)
PLANT SPACE 2' (61cm)

ROW SPACE 3' (91cm)

SPROUTS IN 10-25 days

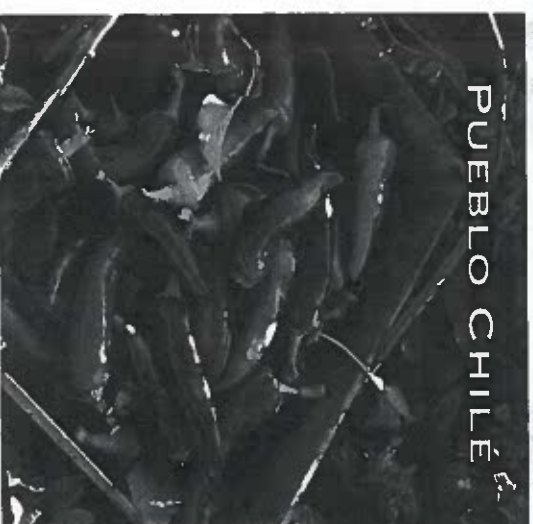
MATURES IN 75 days

SEED COUNT approx. 42

HARVEST
Pick when peppers are 4-5" long and completely yellow.

PUEBLO SEED CO.

PUEBLO CHILÉ



HOBBS & MEYER FARMS
PO BOX 4111
AVONDALE CO 81022
CERTIFIED ORGANIC BY
COLORADO DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

4oz. PUEBLO CHILÉ

contains 36 seeds
Pueblo Chile is an improved pendulous, aromatic, hot, spicy green to purple, conical, Colorado hot pepper. Many say it has the best level of heat (8,000-10,000 Scoville). Ripens from green to red, and ripens quickly. Spent transplants 6-8 weeks before planting date. Spacing 18"-18". 75 days from transplanting date.
HOBBS AND MEYER FARMS (a family farm) operates in Pueblo County, Colorado. Our mission is to renew and strengthen the community of stewards in the land. All sowing for quality, organic, food and people.

Each [51 days] **\$3.10**
Net Wt **10g**

Tendergreen Improved BEAN

HEIRLOOM

LAKE VALLEY SEEDS

Non-GMO

LEAFY PACK for big garden savings! EXTRA



Tendergreen Improved BEAN
Phaseolus vulgaris

Legumes and bean tubers, with generous yields of round, flat, wrinkled, 5" pods. A desirable variety that originated in the 1920s. Excellent for freezing or eating.

PLANTING
Plant in a sunny area in well-drained, average soil in late spring. Optimal soil temperature for germination is 75-95°F. Beans do not tolerate frost. Bush beans sometimes form tendrils similar to pole beans. You can snip them off without harming the plant.

HARVEST
Pick pods regularly just as they start to fill out for best flavor. Replant every three weeks for continuous harvest.

SEED DEPTH
1" (3cm)

PLANT SPACE
4" (10cm)

ROW SPACE
24" (61cm)

SPROUTS IN
7-10 days

MATURES IN
55 days

SEED COUNT
approx. 150

[55 days] **\$1.99**
Net Wt **2g**

Early Purple Vienna KOHLRABI

HEIRLOOM

LAKE VALLEY SEEDS

Non-GMO



Early Purple Vienna KOHLRABI
Brassica oleracea

Early Purple Vienna kohlrabi is an easy-to-grow cool weather crop that forms a distinctive light purple bulb with pale yellow flesh. Peel its crunchy bulb and enjoy it raw or cooked.

PLANTING
Grows best and tastes sweetest when grown in cool weather. Plant in early spring or late summer or winter in mild climates. Sow in full sun in rich, well-drained soil about two weeks prior to last spring frost date. Keep soil evenly moist.

HARVEST
Harvest bulbs when they reach 2-3" in diameter.

SEED DEPTH
1 1/2" (13mm)

PLANT SPACE
6" (15cm)

ROW SPACE
24" (61cm)

SPROUTS IN
6-12 days

MATURES IN
55 days

SEED COUNT
approx. 500

BASIL
Italian Genovese
Ocimum basilicum

USDA ORGANIC

Botanical INTERESTS.

There is nothing like the aroma of basil in the summer! 'Genovese' has the traditional fragrance and flavor, making it excellent for almost any basil dish, especially pesto. One of the most useful herbs, it also has beautiful, edible flowers. In a warm, sunny window, basil can grow indoors in the winter! A good container variety. Pesto recipe inside packet. *This packet sows up to 340 feet.*

When to sow outside: 1 to 2 weeks after your average last frost date, and when soil temperature is at least 60°F; ideally 65°-85°F. Successive Sowings: We recommend 3 or 4 successive sowings every 3 weeks after initial sowing.

When to start inside: RECOMMENDED. 4 to 6 weeks before transplanting outside. Transplant when your nighttime temperatures are above 50°F.

When to sow inside: 1 to 2 weeks after your average last frost date, and when soil temperature is at least 60°F; ideally 65°-85°F. Successive Sowings: We recommend 3 or 4 successive sowings every 3 weeks after initial sowing.

When to start outside: RECOMMENDED. 4 to 6 weeks before transplanting outside. Transplant when your nighttime temperatures are above 50°F.

1/4"

2 seeds every 12"

Row Spacing: 12"

Thinning: When 2" tall, thin to 1 every 12"

Date Seed Sown

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NON-GMO CERTIFIED
www.non-gmo.com

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MADE IN THE USA

Certified Organic
by the Colorado Dept. of Agriculture



BASIL
Italian Genovese

Seeding

Days to Emergence: 5 - 10 Days

Seed Depth: 1/4"

Seed Spacing: 2 seeds every 12"

Row Spacing: 12"

Thinning: When 2" tall, thin to 1 every 12"

Date Seed Sown

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MADE IN THE USA

Certified Organic
by the Colorado Dept. of Agriculture


\$2.09
Net Wt **750 mg**

CHIVES

HEIRLOOM

LAKE VALLEY SEEDS

Non-GMO



CHIVES
Allium schoenoprasum

A popular culinary herb with hollow leaves and mild onion flavor. Easy to grow and very hardy. Pale purple flowers emerge in early spring, and both flowers and leaves can be used raw in salad and to flavor vinegars.

PLANTING
Sow in early spring or winter in mild climates, in a location with full sun to part shade. Keep seeds evenly moist until they germinate. Chives grow in clumps, and can be planted among vegetables and flowers in the garden.

HARVEST
Harvest lightly the first season to give the plants a chance to develop. Cut leaves at about 1" from the ground as needed. New shoots will grow from the base of the plant.

SEED DEPTH
1/8" (3mm)

PLANT SPACE
12" (30cm)

ROW SPACE
12" (30cm)

SPROUTS IN
7-21 days

MATURES IN
45 days

1000 USA
100 mg

MINT

HEIRLOOM

LAKE VALLEY SEEDS

Non-GMO



MINT
Mentha spicata

A traditional garden herb with a refreshing, summery flavor. Cool tasting leaves make a delicious tea, jelly, or garnish for meats and desserts. Lovely blossoms attract pollinators.

PLANTING
Plant in full sun to light shade in rich, moist, well-drained soil in late spring, or anytime up to eight weeks prior to first fall frost date. Start indoors six weeks prior to last spring frost date. Slow to germinate but very hardy once established. Scatter seeds on soil surface and do not cover. They need light to germinate. Keep young plants evenly moist.

HARVEST
Begin harvest after plants are well established. Cut individual sprigs as needed. Cut back entire plant to about 1" above the base to encourage additional production.

SEED DEPTH
surface

PLANT SPACE
scatter

ROW SPACE
24" (61cm)

SPROUTS IN
12-18 days

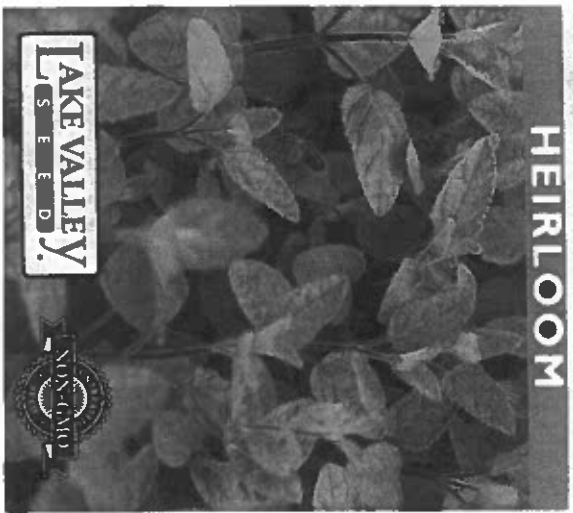
MATURES IN
75 days

SEED COUNT
approx. 1000

**True Greek
OREGANO**

\$1.99
Net Wt
150 mg

HEIRLOOM



**True Greek
OREGANO**
Origanum vulgare hirtum

hardy perennial

Traditional Greek oregano, with the pungent aroma and spicy flavor that makes it a culinary favorite. Dark green leaves with aromatic white flowers that attract pollinators. Hardy and easy to grow.

SEED DEPTH
surface

PLANT SPACE
18" (46cm)

ROW SPACE
2" (61cm)

SPROUTS IN
12-18 days

MATURES IN
90 days

SEED COUNT
approx. 1500

PLANTING
Seed is tiny and easiest to start indoors. Start in spring six to eight weeks before last frost date, and transplant seedlings in area with full sun two to four weeks after last frost when soil has warmed. Water consistently. Do not cover seeds. They need light to germinate.

HARVEST
Harvest lightly the first season to allow plants to develop. Cut individual leaves anytime. Cut mature plant back to 4" before it flowers to encourage new growth.

**Italian Flat Leaf
PARSLEY**

\$2.99
Net Wt
5 g

HEIRLOOM



**Italian Flat Leaf
PARSLEY**
Petroselinum crispum

hardy biennial

Easy to grow and noted for its robust flavor, with wide flat leaves that resemble cilantro. High in iron and vitamins A, C, and E. The preferred parsley for cooking. Add to hot food just before serving to preserve flavor.

SEED DEPTH
1/4" (6mm)

PLANT SPACE
8" (20cm)

ROW SPACE
16" (41cm)

SPROUTS IN
7-28 days

MATURES IN
75 days

SEED COUNT
approx. 2000

PLANTING
Plant in early spring, or start indoors six weeks before last frost and transplant when 2-3" high. Does best in a sunny area and rich, well-drained soil. Water consistently. Very slow germination is improved by soaking seeds overnight and allowing them to dry before planting.

HARVEST
Cut individual stems as needed, or harvest entire plant by cutting one inch from the base.

**French
ROSEMARY**

\$4.99
Net Wt
100 mg

HEIRLOOM



**French
ROSEMARY**
Rosmarinus officinalis

tender perennial

Rosemary is an ornamental herb that's covered with pale blue flowers in late winter. Its leaves add a distinctive flavor to meats and vegetables. French rosemary is a perennial plant that can be brought indoors in winter.

SEED DEPTH
1/4" (6mm)

PLANT SPACE
12" (30cm)

ROW SPACE
12" (30cm)

SPROUTS IN
10-15 days

MATURES IN
85 days

SEED COUNT
approx. 60

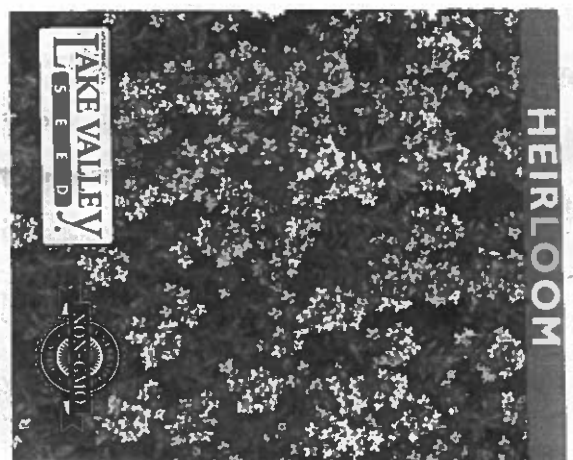
PLANTING
Rosemary prefers full sun, well-drained soil, and good air circulation. There is little need for fertilizer. Sow outdoors after the last spring frost. Start transplants indoors 10 weeks before the last spring frost date.

HARVEST
Harvest tender sprigs as needed, or cut back entire plant and hang stems to dry. Rosemary matures over several seasons. Harvest lightly for the first few years.

**Winter
THYME**

\$1.99
Net Wt
200 mg

HEIRLOOM



**Winter
THYME**
Thymus vulgaris

hardy perennial

Aromatic, hardy plant with tiny green leaves, woody stems, and masses of purple flowers in late spring. Its distinctive flavor is noted for seasoning meats, vinegars, and vegetable blends. Blooms attract bees.

SEED DEPTH
1/8" (3mm)

PLANT SPACE
18" (46cm)

ROW SPACE
24" (61cm)

SPROUTS IN
8-20 days

MATURES IN
70 days

SEED COUNT
approx. 750

PLANTING
Plant in midspring when soil has warmed in full sun and average, well-drained soil. Sow seeds thinly and lightly cover with fine soil. Thyme often grows best when started indoors, three to four weeks before last spring frost date. Transplant in clusters about 8" apart.

HARVEST
Harvest individual leaves as needed for fresh use. To dry, cut back entire plant to just a few stems, 4" above the base and hang in shade to dry.