

UF/IFAS Extension Presents
SPRING INTO VEGETABLE GARDENING
 Interactive Video Series for Novice Gardeners




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Welcome!

- Congratulation on taking steps to learn how to grow your own food!



UF/IFAS Extension

- A partnership
 - Federal Government + University of Florida + County Government
- We are here to provide Solution for your life!
- We work in several different areas including:
 - Agriculture
 - Horticulture (Commercial and Residential)
 - 4-H Youth
 - Family and Consumer Sciences
 - Sea Grant (Coastal education)

We have been around for 100 yrs!

- This year is Extensions 100th Birthday!
- Extension was established with the Smith-Lever Act of 1914.



Objectives

- Recall the benefits of Vegetable gardening in Florida.
- Recall the process to set realistic and attainable goals.
- Recognize the different vegetable gardening methods.
- Recognize vegetable crops that can be grown in Florida

Why is Florida a great state for Gardening?

- We have beautiful weather, take advantage of it!
- There are many crops you can choose to grow.
- Why not?



What are the Benefits?



- Enjoying the Fresh Air
- Enjoyable Exercise
- Therapy
- Economic Savings
- Nutritious Fresh Vegetables at your door step!

What Expectations should a Florida Gardener have?



You might get something like this...



A few questions before you start?

- Why do you want to grow Vegetables?
- What size garden will accomplish your goals?
- Is it feasible for your situation? (amount of time, amount of land, physical capability)

Why are YOU growing Vegetables?

- To have fresh vegetables available for you and your family and friends?
- To teach your children where food comes from?
- To sell?
- For enjoyment of growing something?



Starting small can help avoid disappointment and fatigue



How do I start small?



Container Gardening



Raised Bed Gardening



Small patch in Native Soil



Possibly even Hydroponics



Are My Expectations Realistic?

- Can you keep up with expectations you have set?
- Consider time, physical work, and other factors.
- If you do end up setting expectations to high stay positive.

Build for the future

- As you become more experienced, try new things.
- If you have big goals, build to them overtime!

Which Vegetables do you grow?



<http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/pdffiles/VH/VH02100.pdf>

Summer Squash



Tomato



Pepper



Cucumber





Other Crops

Watermelon, Sweet Corn, Zucchini, Eggplant, Okra, Southern Peas, Cantaloupes, etc.

Keys to successful Gardens!

- Site Selection & Soils
- Garden Planning
- Seeding vs. Transplanting
- Fertilization
- Weed Control
- Irrigation
- Pest Management
- Harvesting

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Thank You for your attention!
Photo Credits: IFAS Communications
We will now take a short break.

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