

Radish

Cultural Details: ZZ611

Radish is a quick to mature vegetable with the summer varieties maturing in 2-8 week with the winter varieties taking 8-10 weeks.

Summer radishes are small round or cylindrical in shape that reaches the size of a walnut. They have red or white skins and are eaten raw in salads.

Winter radishes a larger and turnip like and have a wider range of skin colours from black through purple, yellow or green. Again they can be eaten raw in salads or cooked like a Turnip or Swede.

Seedling leaves can also be used as cut and come again salad while the immature seed pods of older plants are also edible.

Sowing & Growing

Sow radishes thinly outdoors in drills 15cm apart, thinning the seedlings to 3cm apart within the row soon after emergence, watering ground well before and after seed emergence. Winter radishes should be thinned to 15cm apart as they reach a larger size. Birds are often a nuisance so protect the crop. Keep the weeds at bay and keep ground moist otherwise roots can become woody and peppery.

Radishes like fertile moist soil, with regular watering in dry periods to keep the soil moist for rapid growth.

Harvest

Summer varieties are ready for harvest when they are the diameter of a 10p piece.

Winter varieties can be left in the ground until they are ready to be used although the crown may need protecting from frost with straw. It is best to lift them in November and store in the same way as carrots.

Common Problems

Soft Rot
Turnip Mosaic Virus
Brown Heart
Black Rot
Woody Roots
Splitting
Damping Off
Flea Beetle

Information provided for guidance only, as cultural practices and climatic circumstances vary.