



Growing Turnip

Number 0019

March 2, 2010



Turnips Are Easy

Turnips, the white fleshed summer kind, are root vegetables that are easy to grow. They like a raised bed with soft soil.

Growing Turnip

Plant seeds in the garden as soon as the ground can be worked in the spring.

They germinate in about a week. They grow quickly and need to be thinned with scissors to the strongest ones at 4 to 6 inches apart. They should be grown entirely within the cooler part of the season.

The flavour of turnips improves with light frost but heavy frost will kill them. If they get discoloured centres, this is usually a sign of boron deficiency.

Varieties to Plant

Veseys offers Early Purple Top White Globe turnips.

Problems You Might Encounter

They are subject to root maggots after small flies lay their eggs on them.

Harvesting and Storage

The foliage is used as greens and the root can be harvested starting the end of May or early June. They do not store well so eat them as you pick and do not plant too many.

Learn more about growing turnip from the Cornell University site www.gardening.cornell.edu >

Learn more about rutabaga on Wikipedia >