
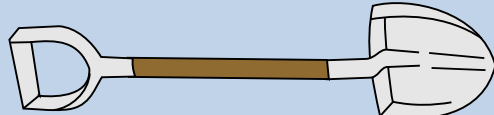





Potatoes



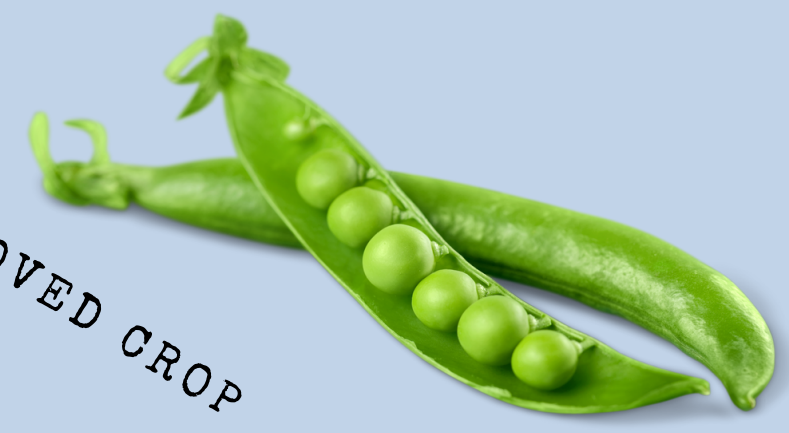
<p>SOIL TYPE</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deep well drained soil • Loam or sandy soil • pH 5.5 -6 • Crop rotation (1 in 4) to avoid nematodes
<p>SEEDBED PREPARATION & SOWING</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turn the soil over to the depth of the spade (20 cm) • Break up any clods & remove stones, form drills • Sowing Rate: 2500kg/ha, Spacing: varies according to size of seeds (ranges from 20-35cm apart), Depth: 10 cm
<p>CARE OF THE CROP</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blight: use blight resistant seeds/spray with fungicide/remove infected plants • Blackleg: ensure well drained beds to prevent bacteria spread • Pests: wireworms, click beetles & slugs - use suitable pest control
<p>HARVEST</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harvest earlies 12-14 weeks, maincrop 18-20 weeks after planting. • Presence of flowers on the plant indicates that tubers are ready • Use shovel or spading fork to dig • Earlies can be left in the ground as a suitable storage place until needed
<p>TOP TIPS</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sprout first earlies before planting • Earth up 2 weeks after plant emergence • Space seed two hands apart • Add compost 2 weeks prior to keep soil fertile & moist

..if watering is needed then apply it in the morning so the leaves can dry off in the afternoon to discourage blight



Peas

GLAS APPROVED CROP


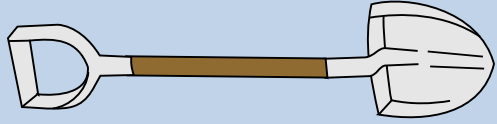





<p>SOIL TYPE</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peas will grow in most reasonable soils • They don't require any nitrogen fertiliser, as they fix Nitrogen from the air via bacteria in their roots • pH 6 - 6.8
<p>SEEDBED PREPARATION & SOWING</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beds should be turned over prior to sowing to ensure good aeration and root development. • Sowing Rate: 30kg/ha, Spacing: 30 - 50 mm, Depth: 25 - 30mm
<p>CARE OF THE CROP</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slugs can attack the young plants: use suitable pest control e.g. slug pellets or slug traps • Mildew can arise particularly when the plant is stressed or organic matter in soil is low, requires suitable monitoring and control • Pests in large operations include pea aphid, pea moth and pea weevil
<p>HARVEST</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harvest when pea pods are full, firm and circular in diameter • Eat within hours of picking. If storing for later consumption leave the hat on top of the pods to slow down sugar to starch conversion
<p>TOP TIPS</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peas need support: an effective support is to run lengths of chicken wire between posts with rows of peas on either side • To keep peas as seeds for future years wait until pod has turned brown and appears dried out. Dry out peas further on a window sill or warm place before storing in a suitable container in a cool, dry place.

To ensure a good yield make sure the soil doesn't dry out when the plants are flowering



Oil Seed Rape (OSR)

<p>SOIL TYPE</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free draining, medium to heavy soils are most suitable • Crops fail to reach yield potential on very light or water logged soils • pH range: 6.2 - 7.5. Above 6.5 is ideal
<p>SEEDBED PREPARATION & SOWING</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ideally cultivation should be done when soil conditions are dry as rape does not like compaction • Seedbed should be rolled as rape requires a consolidated seedbed and also to retain moisture. • Sowing Rate: 3-4kg/ha, Spacing: 6cm, Depth: 1.5cm
<p>CARE OF THE CROP</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pests: slugs and aphids - use suitable pest control • Phoma(stem canker) & light leaf spot - treat with fungicide • Broadleaf weed control can be a challenge: pre-emergent herbicide is most effective option
<p>HARVEST</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mostly grown large scale and harvested using a combine harvester • The crop tends to ripen unevenly resulting in seed losses due to early drying out and windy conditions. • OSR must be dried to 7.5 - 8% moisture content before storing
<p>TOP TIPS</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Winter Oilseed rape is generally sown from Mid-August till early September when, temperatures is around 15 °C. • Spring Oilseed rape is sown from February to April with higher plant populations required

GLAS APPROVED CROP





OSR is an excellent break crop in a cereal rotation resulting in increased yields of the following wheat of 1.5 tonne/ha approx



Barley



<p>SOIL TYPE</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Well drained soil • Brown earths and deep sandy loams • pH range: 6.0 - 6.8, pH of 6.5 is ideal
<p>SEEDBED PREPARATION & SOWING</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A fine firm seedbed is ideal, with as little cultivation as possible to avoid damage to soil structure and soil compaction. • Sowing Rate: 140-200kg/ha, Spacing: 15- 20cm, Depth: 3-5cm
<p>CARE OF THE CROP</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slug pellets- Slugs can also attack the young plants • Spray for fungal diseases e.g. powdery mildew, rhynchosporium • To prevent spread of Barley Yellow Dwarf Virus (BYDV) use suitable control for aphids
<p>HARVEST</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fully ripe barley has bleached yellow straw and dead flag leaves on the top of the stem • The grain head will have drooped parallel to the stem. The grains are hard, easy to dislodge and have a low moisture content is low (between 14-16% for malting barley)
<p>TOP TIPS</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use disease free certified seeds • Barley gives higher yields when sown in rotation • Don't sow barley after grass in rotation • Water plants in the morning to avoid fungal diseases e.g. rusts

Winter Barley: Sept- Oct (Optimum date is 1st Oct)
Spring Barley: Mar is the ideal month to sow spring barley with yield potential declining after mid-April.



Information sourced from:
www.fruithillfarm.com
www.germinal.ie
www.giy.ie
www.goldcrop.ie
www.teagasc.ie

Kale

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<p>SOIL TYPE</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free draining loam or sandy soil is ideal • Kale will grow in most reasonable soils • Grows best if the soil has compost and fertiliser added • pH 6-7
<p>SEEDBED PREPARATION & SOWING</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turn over beds before sowing to ensure good aeration & root development. • Sowing Rate: 4-5kg/ha, Spacing: 30 - 50cm, Depth: 10mm • Sown by broadcasting, direct drilling or precision seeding
<p>CARE OF THE CROP</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flea beetles / cabbage fly - spray with insecticide • Club foot - Suitable rotation • Slug pellets- Slugs can also attack the young plants • Netting can be placed over the crop to prevent damage by birds or cabbage white caterpillar
<p>HARVEST</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Animal consumption: graze fresh by either strip grazing or zero grazing • Human consumption: using a rolling harvest provides fresh leaves for the consumer for months. Harvest leaves from the bottom and the plant will continue to grow, producing new leaves higher up.
<p>TOP TIPS</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To shorten the growing season try germinating indoors • Germination will take about 10 days. When the plant is about 22cm / and four leaves have developed (about 6 weeks after sowing) transplant them to their final positions for finishing off

Do not grow kale anywhere that you have grown any member of the cabbage family the previous three years

