

STRAWBERRY PLANTING & CARE

WHERE TO PLANT: First choose a well drained sunny location (a little shade is acceptable). To improve drainage the area can be mounded up or Soil Pep can be added to the soil. Strawberries should not be planted in an area that has been used to grow sod, tomatoes, or potatoes to avoid spreading insects and diseases.

Remove all weeds from the area and till the soil. Thoroughly mix in 2-3" of organic matter such as composted manure and soil pep. At the same time, mix in a balanced fertilizer.

HOW TO PLANT: It is extremely important to plant at the proper depth. Place the crown just above the ground line (see illustration). When planting bareroot strawberries, spread the roots out in a fan shape.

There are many systems of organizing strawberry beds, but as a general rule space the plants about 18-24" apart if you want to allow the runners to set and 10" apart if you will remove runners (to keep nice neat rows). After planting, water in immediately.



MULCH: Mulching can be very beneficial to conserve moisture, provide weed control, and keep the berries clean. Shredded bark works as a great mulch.

WATERING & HARVESTING: Strawberries require frequent thorough irrigations especially during the fruiting season. Water early in the day so the berries aren't wet through the night.

Harvest the berries when they are fully colored and have no white areas. Leave the cap and the stem on the berries. For best results, remove and replace old or diseased plants.

JUNE BEARING: Produce a large crop in early summer. Short bearing season with heavy production.

EVER BEARING: Produce one crop in the normal season and another crop in the fall.

DAY NEUTRAL: New more prolific type.



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