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Seed Starting Tips

The joys of starting your own seeds are many -- earlier harvests, greater variety, healthier seedlings, cost savings, and the fun of watching plants grow!

Sowing Seeds

Soak seeds in hot water overnight to speed germination. Seeding in **pot-paks** and/or **flats** is most convenient. Sterilize all "used" pots, flats, tools with **Physan 20**. Use only sterilized starting mixes to help prevent damp-off disease. Mix very fine seed with fine sand or milled sphagnum moss. Scatter over growing medium. Our **Super Seed Sower** and **Pro-seeder** help you to not over-seed and will cut down on tedious thinning.

Sow small seed 1/2" apart; large 1" apart. Most fine seeds don't need to be covered. Cover other seed with a sifting of fine soil. Use a fine **mist sprayer** (#6342) to mist thoroughly. **DO NOT LET THEM DRY OUT**. Reduce evaporation and maintain humidity by covering with a **dome**. **Capillary matting** is also a great aid.

Germination

Seeds need darkness, moisture and heat to germinate. Keep them in a dark area. Seeds have enough food stored inside, so they need only water -- no fertilizer yet. **DO NOT LET THEM DRY OUT**. Most seeds germinate best at a constant temperature between 65° F to 75°F. For best results, use a **heat cable** or **grow mat**.

Seedling Stage

When the majority sprout, move them off the bottom heat source and remove the dome. Water them with a diluted **all-purpose fertilizer**, and make sure they get enough **fluorescent light** at the right height. After they have 2 pairs of true leaves, they can be transplanted to larger containers.

Enjoy the miracle of Mother Nature in action!

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Questions? e-mail Charley's or Call 1-800-322-4707 24 hours, 7 Days A Week
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