

Making Compost

Making compost involves mixing wet and dry organic material. Dry material includes fallen leaves, hay, straw or similar fibrous material. The wet ingredient layers are more motley; they can include almost any material that was once alive other than animal remains. You can include vegetable and fruit peelings, leftover or spoiled vegetables, corn cobs, coffee grounds and egg shells. Garden clippings work, too, including leaves, branch prunings, grass clippings and hedge trimmings. In addition, you need horse or steer manure, or garden soil.

Layering

Compost is not unlike lasagna; you prepare it a layer at a time. The 12-inch ground layer is made of dry materials. After that, add a 2-inch layer of soil or manure topped by about 12 inches of organic material. The layers alternate until the pile reaches 5 feet. Layering the compost material helps air circulate through the pile. Before each layer of organic material, you need to add water and tamp it down. A compost pile decomposes most rapidly if it contains about equal amounts of dry, fibrous refuse such as straw, and green refuse, such as vegetable peelings.

Mixing

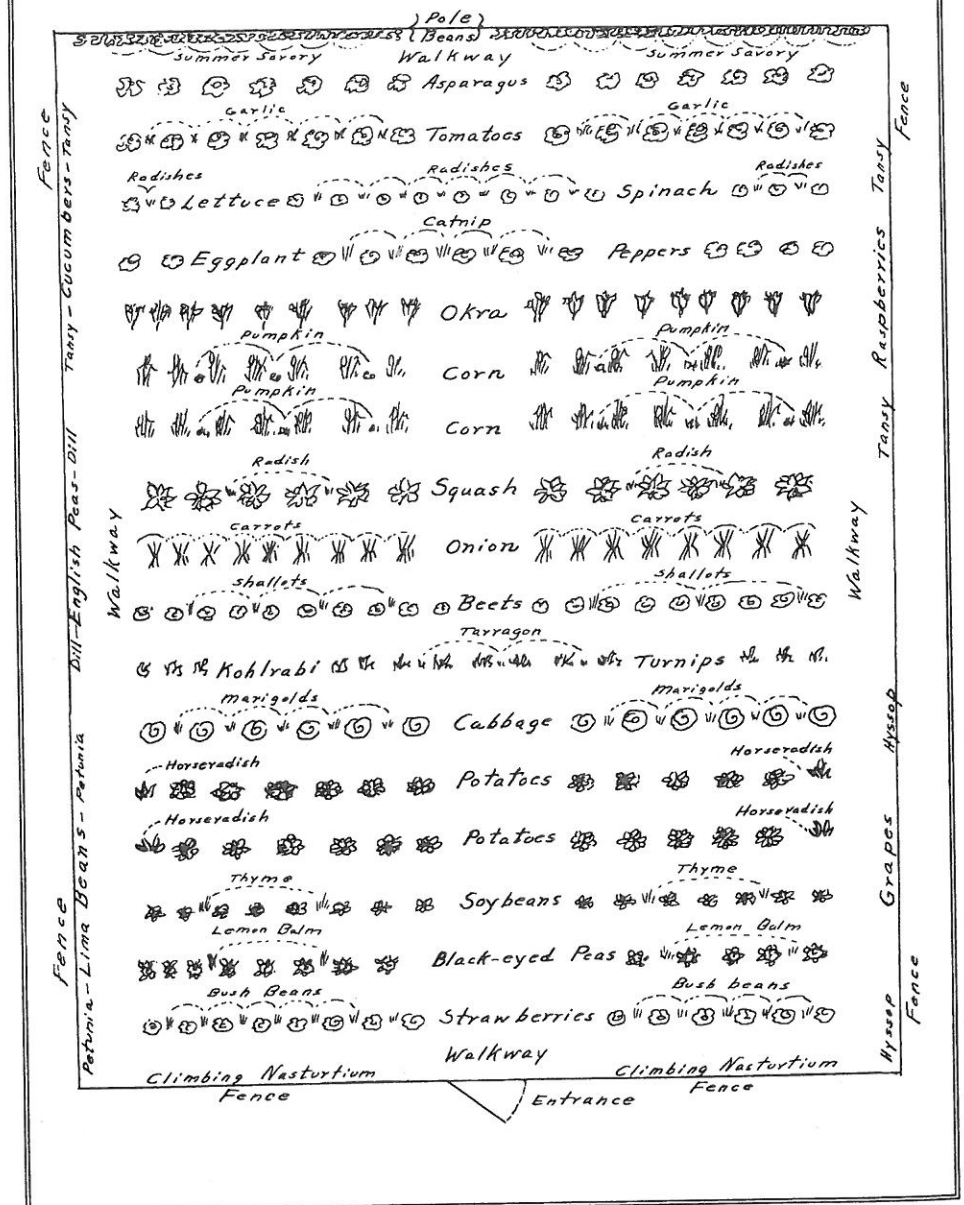
If you keep the compost pile moist with bimonthly watering, it will quickly shrink to one-third its original size. Since the compost material rots fastest on the inside, stirring the pile every six weeks gives all elements a chance to decompose. Rainfall can turn the compost into soup, so it is important to cover the pile with a tarp.

Compost

Regular watering and stirring will pay off in about three to six months, depending on the weather. You can tell your compost is done and ready to use as mulch when the original organic materials are black or brown and crumbly. A 2- to 4-inch top layer of compost topping your garden and flower beds will build, feed and protect the soil.

Good Use of Fence

A Model Companion Garden



Companion Planting



	Basil	Beans	Broccoli	Carrots	Cauliflower	Chives	Cilantro	Corn	Cucumbers	Dill	Garlic	Leeks	Lettuce	Marigold	Melon	Nasturtium	Onion	Oregano	Parsley	Peas	Peppers	Rosemary	Sage	Spinach	Squash	Strawberries	Sunflowers	Swiss Chard	Thyme	Tomatoes
Basil																														
Beans																														
Broccoli																														
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Plants grow well together



Don't plant together!



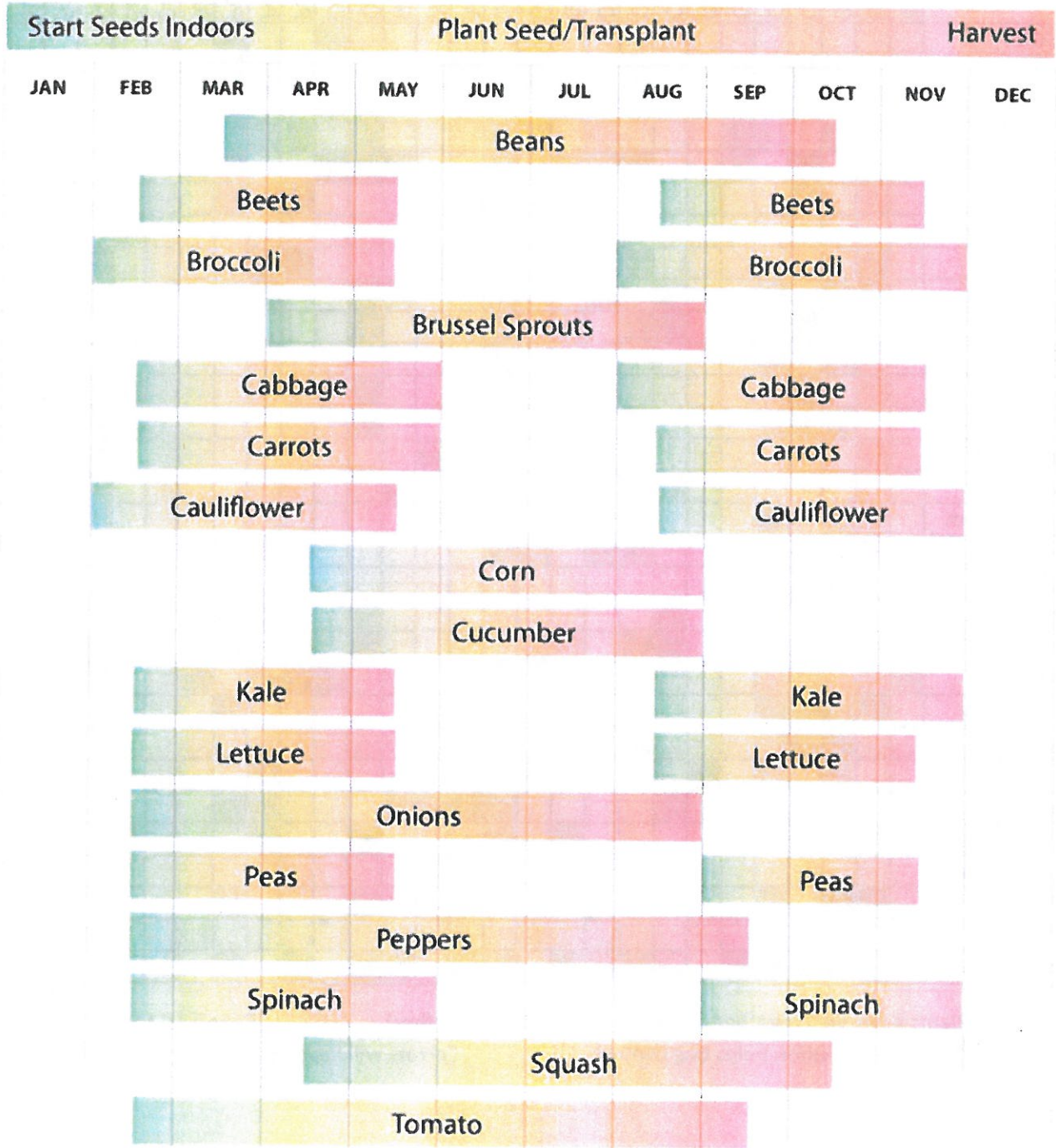
Combination helps bug control



Carrots will have good flavor, but stunted roots

Beneficial to garden in general

Georgia Planting Schedule, Zone 8



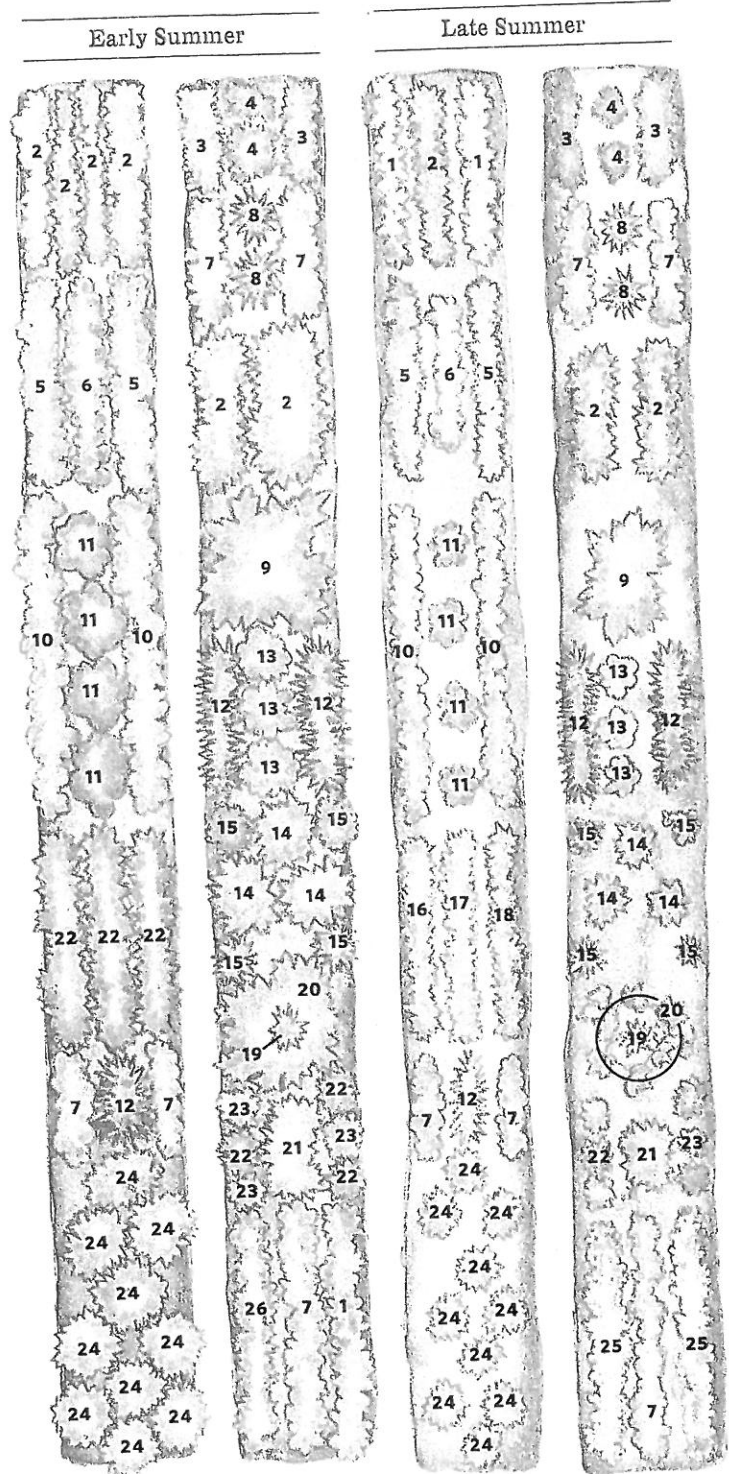
Fort Gordon Community Garden
Located at Brainard Ave. & 44th St.
(706) 791-9483

Making a Garden Plan

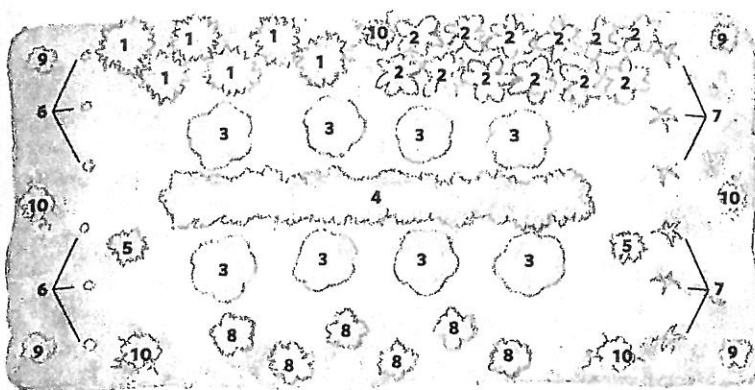
A garden plan doesn't have to be complex. In fact, it probably shouldn't be, or it won't get done in the first place. These drawings show a kitchen garden, first in early summer and then later when the fast-growing crops are replaced by succession plantings. Each plant is identified by a number.

Key to Plants

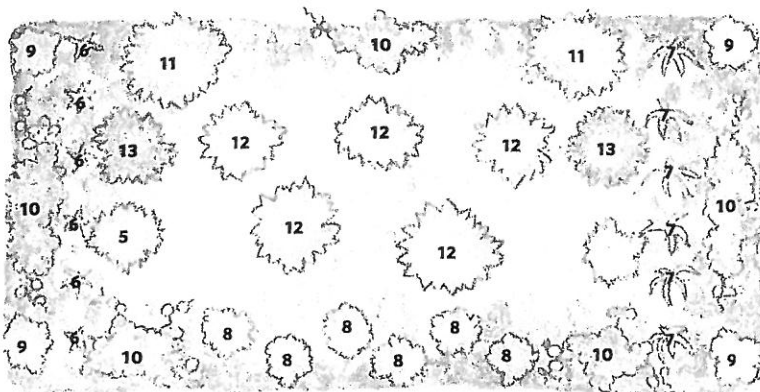
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|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Beets | 13. Savoy cabbage |
| 2. Bush beans | 14. Peppers |
| 3. Carrots and radishes | 15. Parsley |
| 4. Oregano | 16. Spinach |
| 5. Carrots | 17. Arugula |
| 6. Pak choi | 18. Red orach |
| 7. Lettuce | 19. Cucumbers |
| 8. Chives | 20. Dill |
| 9. Summer squash | 21. Tomatoes |
| 10. Swiss chard | 22. Basil |
| 11. Broccoli | 23. Marigolds |
| 12. Onions | 24. Potatoes |
| | 25. Peas |
| | 26. New Zealand spinach |



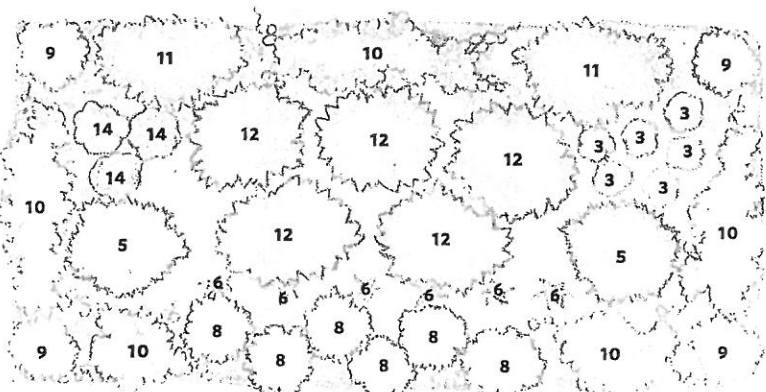
Mid-May



Mid-July



Early September



6'

A Small Garden, Through the Seasons

Whether your garden is large or small, a garden plan is important to its success. With succession planting, it can provide a steady supply of great-tasting vegetables from spring through late fall, with a few ornamental herbs and flowers adding good looks, too. The plans shown here are just a starting point; you can adapt them to grow the vegetables you and your family like most.

Key to Plants

1. Spinach
2. Beets
3. Lettuce
4. Radishes
5. Celery
6. Garlic
7. Leeks
8. Parsley
9. Marigolds
10. Nasturtiums
11. Tomatoes
12. Peppers
13. Basil
14. Kale

Georgia Pollinator Plants.

Botanical Name	Common Name	Growth Habit	Native/ Non-native	Flower Color	Bloom Time									
					FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	
<i>Abelia x grandiflora</i>	glossy abelia	shrub	non-native	white/pink			X	X	X	X	X			
<i>Acer barbatum</i>	southern sugar maple	small tree	native	yellow	X									
<i>Acer rubrum</i>	red maple	tall tree	native	yellow										
<i>Aesculus parviflora</i>	bottlebrush buckeye	shrub	native	white				X	X	X				
<i>Aesculus pavia</i>	red buckeye	shrub	native	red		X	X	X						
<i>Aesculus sylvatica</i>	painted buckeye	shrub	native	yellow/ green/pink		X	X	X						
<i>Amelanchier</i> spp.	serviceberry	small tree	native	white	X	X								
<i>Aronia arbutifolia</i>	red chokecherry	shrub	native	white				X						
<i>Baccharis halimifolia</i>	groundsel bush	shrub	native	white							X	X	X	
<i>Bignonia capreolata</i>	crossvine	woody vine	native	orange/red			X	X	X					
<i>Callicarpa americana</i>	American beautyberry	shrub	native	lavender				X	X	X				
<i>Callistemon citrinus</i>	red bottlebrush	small tree	non-native	red					X	X				
<i>Calycanthus floridus</i>	sweet shrub	shrub	native	red				X	X					
<i>Catalpa bignonioides</i>	catalpa	medium tree	native	white				X	X					
<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>	buttonbush	shrub	native	white					X	X	X			
<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	eastern redbud	medium tree	native	pink	X	X								
<i>Chaenomeles speciosa</i>	flowering quince	small tree	non-native	pink/white/ rose red		X	X	X						
<i>Chionanthus virginicus</i>	fringe tree	medium tree	native	white			X	X						
<i>Clethra alnifolia</i>	clethra	shrub	native	white/pink						X	X			
<i>Cladrastis kentuckea</i>	American yellowwood	tall tree	native	white			X	X						
<i>Cornus florida</i>	dogwood	medium tree	native	white		X	X							
<i>Crataegus</i> spp.	hawthorn	small tree	native	white		X	X							
<i>Diospyros virginiana</i>	persimmon	medium tree	native	white/ green/ yellow				X	X					
<i>Edgeworthia chrysantha</i>	paperbush	shrub	non-native	white/gold	X	X	X							
<i>Euonymus americanus</i>	strawberry bush	shrub	native	green/white				X	X					
<i>Halesia tetraptera</i>	silverbell	shrub	native	white			X	X						
<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>	witch hazel	small tree	native	yellow								X	X	

Garden Planning Chart

Vegetable	Seeds or Plants for a 50' Row	Distance between Rows	Amount per Person	Spacing between Plants
Beans, dry	4 oz. seeds	18"	20-30' of row	6-8"
Beans, shell	4 oz. seeds	18"	30' of row	8-10"
Beans, snap	4 oz. seeds	18"	30' of row	2-4"
Beets	½ oz. seeds	12"	10-15' of row	2-4"
Broccoli	25 plants	24"	5 plants	12-24"
Brussels sprouts	25 plants	24"	5 plants	12-24"
Cabbage	25 plants	24"	10 plants	12-18"
Carrots	⅓ oz. seeds	12"	10' of row	1-3"
Cauliflower	25 plants	24"	5 plants	14-24"
Corn	1 oz. seeds	24"	25' of row	9-15"
Cucumbers	¼ oz. seeds	48"	10-15' of row	12"
Eggplants	25 plants	24"	5 plants	18-36"
Endive	⅓ oz. seeds	18"	10' of row	8-12"
Kale	⅓ oz. seeds	18"	12' of row	18-24"
Kohlrabi	⅓ oz. seeds	18"	10' of row	3-6"
Leeks	⅓ oz. seeds	6"	10-20' of row	6"
Lettuce, head	⅓ oz. seeds	15"	5-10' of row	10-15"
Lettuce, leaf	⅓ oz. seeds	12"	5-10' of row	10-12"
Muskmelons	12 plants	48"	3 plants	12"
Onion sets	1 lb. sets	12"	10-20' of row	2-4"
Parsnips	¼ oz. seeds	18"	5-10' of row	3-6"
Peas	8 oz. seeds	24"	50-100' of row	1-3"
Peppers	33 plants	18"	5 plants	12-24"
Potatoes	33 plants	30"	50' of row	9-12"
Pumpkins	¼ oz. seeds	60"	1 hill	36-60"
Radishes	½ oz. seeds	12"	5' of row	1-2"
Salsify	½ oz. seeds	18"	5' of row	2-4"
Spinach	½ oz. seeds	15"	20' of row	2-6"
Squash, summer	¼ oz. seeds	60"	1 hill	24-48"
Squash, winter	¼ oz. seeds	60"	3-5 hills	24-40"
Swiss chard	¼ oz. seeds	18"	5' of row	3-6"
Tomatoes	12-15 plants	30"	5 plants	12-24"
Turnips	¼ oz. seeds	15"	10' of row	2-6"
Watermelon	30 plants	72"	2 or 3 hills	72-96"
Zucchini	¼ oz. seeds	60"	1 hill	24-48"