

Onions

Onions are biennial plants grown as annuals for their edible bulb. This is a cool season crop that can tolerate some frost. Although many varieties are available, choose long or intermediate day types for our growing conditions.

Onions are grown from transplants or sets (small bulbs). Both should be planted in late April or early May. Planting close together results in earlier, smaller bulbs.



Plants spaced farther apart will allow bulbs to grow bigger and mature later. Onions have shallow roots, so cultivate carefully when weeding. Reduce watering 2-3 weeks before harvest.

Dig onions for storage when 50-80% of the tops have fallen over. Avoid bruising that may cause rotting. Cure bulbs at 85-90°F for one week before storing at a cool temperature (32-40°F).

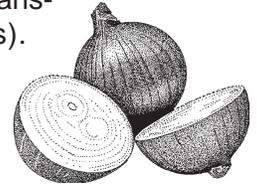
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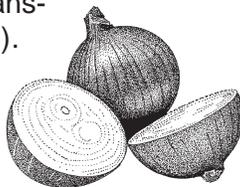
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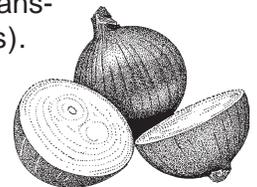
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Additional Resources

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- UW-Extension Publication A3785, *Growing Onions, Garlic, Leeks and Other Alliums in Wisconsin*, at <http://learningstore.uwex.edu/Growing-Onions-Garlic-Leeks-and-Other-Alliums-in-Wisconsin-P522.aspx>
- UW-Extension Publication A1989, *The Vegetable Garden*, at <http://learningstore.uwex.edu/Vegetable-Garden-The-P518.aspx>
- Article on Egyptian walking onions on the MG website at <http://wimastergardener.org/article/egyptian-walking-onions/>

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