

## Asparagus

This hardy perennial vegetable is easy to grow in Wisconsin gardens. Choose a site without any perennial weeds such as quackgrass, Canada thistle, or creeping Jenny because perennial weeds intermixed with asparagus can be very difficult to control. Plant purchased crowns about 1 foot apart in early spring. Mulch and use shallow cultivation to prevent weed growth. After fall frost remove the fronds to reduce the possibility of disease (rust) and insect (asparagus beetle).



Wait until the third year to begin harvesting when spears are 6-8" tall, breaking or cutting near the soil. Asparagus is best eaten on the day it is picked, but it can be stored in the refrigerator for 2 to 3 days.

*Provided by*

[wimastergardener.org](http://wimastergardener.org)



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## Additional Resources

### Asparagus

- UW-Extension Publication A2801, *Growing Vegetables at Home —Questions and Answers*, at <http://learningstore.uwex.edu/Growing-Vegetables-at-Home-Questions-and-Answers-P520.aspx>
- UW-Extension Garden Fact Sheet XHT1137, *Asparagus Beetle*, at <http://hort.uwex.edu/articles/asparagus-beetle/>
- UW-Extension Pub. A1989, *The Vegetable Garden*, at <http://learningstore.uwex.edu/Vegetable-Garden-The-P518.aspx>

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