

## Herbs:

Herbs are relatively easy to grow in average garden soil. Please note the individual requirements listed below.

**Basil** will do well transplanted into a garden space or in a pot. Put in an area with full sun and be sure temperatures don't go below 45 F. Space plants about 6 to 8 inches apart. Pinch back Basil blossoms, once the flowers open your basil will start to become bitter.

**Chives** are a perennial and will tolerate potting. They prefer to be planted in the ground in sun or part shade. Both the leaves and flowers are edible. Space plants 4 to 8 inches apart.

**Cilantro and Dill** do not transplant well. We recommend using these herbs straight from the pot and replenishing your supply as needed with new plants. Keep in an area with full sun. Later plantings are easy to establish from seed.

**Lavender** needs well-drained soil and full sun. A stone walk way is a great place to plant lavender because the stones will give off extra heat, giving similar conditions to a hot and dry Mediterranean summer. Do not over water your lavender as it likes to dry down a bit in between waterings. This particular variety, Lady, will over winter in zone 5 if given winter protection. Space plants 1 to 1 ½ feet apart.

**Common Mint and Spearmint** will do well in a pot or transplanted into your garden. Mints are perennials and WILL spread. You can plant them in the ground inside a large pot with about an inch or two of the rim showing to help prevent them spreading. They like to be planted in fertile soil in sun to part shade.

**Nasturtiums** will do well in a pot or transplanted into your garden. If transplanting do not delay planting as this will stunt plants. Transplant into well-drained soil in sun to part shade.

**Oregano** will do well in a pot or transplanted into your garden. Transplant oregano into fertile soil in an area with full sun. Space plants about a foot apart.

**Parsley** will do well in a pot or transplanted into your garden. Transplant parsley in fertile soil in an area with full sun. Space plants about 1 to 1 ½ feet apart. When harvesting, leave the small inner leaves and take the outer large leaves. The inner leaves will continue to grow providing

**Rosemary** will do well in a pot or transplanted into your garden. Transplant rosemary in well-drained soil in full sun. Space plants about 1 to 1 ½ feet apart. Rosemary is very slow growing; you can dig up rosemary in the fall and transplant it back into a pot to bring inside to grow for the winter. Transplant it back outside in your garden again in the spring. When harvesting, pinch buds to promote branching.

**Sage** will do well in a pot or transplanted into your garden. Transplant sage into well drained soil in sun to part shade. Space plants about a foot apart.

**Thyme** will do well in a pot or transplanted into your garden. Transplant thyme into fertile soil in sun to part shade. Space plants about 6 to 8 inches apart.

## Cucumbers, Zucchini, and Melons:

There is a very small window of opportunity for transplanting these crops with good results. Transplant after all danger of frost in an area with full sun and well-drained, fertile soil. Water peat pots well and keep moist. To transplant, peel back the pot lip and tear off the top ¼ of the peat pot. Plant the entire peat pot under ground, water well, and try not to disturb the roots. The peat pot will decompose on its own

**Cucumbers:** Plant in full sun after all danger of frost in fertile, compost-enriched soil. Space pots one foot apart in rows 3 feet apart, or trellis the vines along a fence to save space in the garden

**Zucchini:** Plant in full sun after all danger of frost in fertile, compost-enriched soil. Space pots 18 inches apart in rows 4 to 5 feet apart. Squash plants can grow quite large so be sure to leave plenty of space!

**Athena Cantaloupe:** a very sweet, firm melon that resists cracking. This is your best bet to get a Connecticut cantaloupe!

**'Sunshine' Yellow Watermelon:** This variety of watermelon produces 4 to 8 lb. fruit that have sweet yellow flesh. They are beautiful to look at and even better to eat!

**'Starlight' Red Watermelon:** A dependable producer of sweet, juicy 8 to 10 lb. red watermelons.

## FortHill Farm Plants



Connecticut Grown!

Certified Organic!

Unique varieties!

**Our certified organic plants are grown in compost enriched medium and treated with the same care that we lavish on the plants we grow for our farm. We use only natural fertilizers, and no synthetic pesticides. We 'harden off' our transplants so that they are ready to plant into your garden!**

## *Fort Hill Farm Certified Organic Plants*

**Tomatoes:** Plant tomatoes outdoors in soil amended with compost and organic fertilizer. Set plants with about 3 to 6 inches of the stem under ground; the stem will sprout roots to provide for a strong, stable plant. Space tomato plants about 1 ½ to 2 feet apart; stake plants or use tomato cages to provide support. Full Sun. \* Avoid transplanting tomatoes outside unprotected until night temperatures are above 45F. Frost will cause severe damage.\*

### **Big Beef:**

A great hybrid beefsteak type tomato for home gardeners. Early to harvest for a large tomato with good flavor.

### **Brandywine:**

Amish Heirloom variety with large, pink-red fruit. Often described as the best tasting tomato ever, Brandywine tomatoes offer a sweet and almost creamy flesh.

### **Cherokee Purple:**

Tennessee Heirloom variety with medium size, dusky rose/purple fruit. Fruit will have green toned skin around the stem even when ripe. A sweet, full, and rich tomato taste with a deep red, almost maroon flesh on the inside. Quickly became a favorite at Fort Hill Farm!

### **Lemon Boy:**

Lemon yellow beefsteak type tomato, one of the best yellow tomatoes with a mild and sweet yet tangy flavor.

### **Pink Beauty:**

Beautiful pink beefsteak type tomato producing blemish free fruits with a full, sweet, and rich tomato flavor.

### **Valencia:**

Heirloom variety with large golden-orange fruits, one of the best tasting orange tomatoes. Fruit are sweet and meaty with few seeds.

### **Striped German:**

Beautiful heirloom variety with large yellow and red fruits and a green rim around the stem, even when ripe. The yellow and red color offers a lovely marbled flesh when sliced with a sweet, rich and mildly tangy flavor to rival any heirloom variety.

### **San Marzano Plum:**

Classic Italian plum tomato that is great for making sauce. Also excellent for canning whole, tomato paste, or tomato puree.

### **Sungold Cherry Tomato:**

Extremely sweet bright orange cherry tomatoes. Sungolds are a vigorous grower and yield huge numbers of yummy fruit. A big hit with kids. So sweet you won't believe you're eating tomatoes.

### **Sweet 100 Cherry Tomato:**

Mouth watering sweet red cherry tomatoes that bear easy pickin' fruits.

### **Red grape:**

Sweet, firm, oval cherry sized fruit. Very popular for salads and snacks.

.\*. All our plants are certified Organic by Baystate Organic Certifiers, Winchendon MA\*\*

## **Peppers:**

Transplant peppers outside from late-May thru mid-June when night temperatures are above 45F. Amend the soil with compost and organic fertilizers. Space plants about 1 ½ to 2 feet apart. Plant peppers deep enough to just cover the root ball. Full Sun.

### **Red Knight:**

A sweet bell pepper. Can be picked early for green peppers, or leave on the plant to ripen to a sweet red bell pepper.

### **Italia:**

Long Italian horn-shaped red pepper with thin walls with sweet and crisp flesh. Great raw or cooked. Harvest when peppers are fully red for a sweet treat.

## **Eggplant:**

Transplant Eggplant outside from late-May thru mid-June when night temperatures are above 45F. Amend the soil with compost and organic fertilizers. Space plants about 1 ½ to 2 feet apart. Full Sun.

### **Nadia:**

Classic Italian eggplant most commonly found in supermarkets with glossy dark purple to black skin.

**Rosa Bianca:** a beautiful Italian heirloom eggplant. Round fruit are white with a purple blush. Makes the best eggplant parmigiana!

**Ping Tung:** a novel Japanese eggplant, great for roasting, grilling, and stir fry.

## **Lettuce:**

Lettuce is a cool weather crop and grows best in Spring. Transplant into fertile soil in full sun to part shade. Space plants about 1 foot apart for full heads, closer spacing for "mini heads."