



Basic How To's When Growing Strawberries

June bearing strawberries produce a large crop mid-June to early July. June bearing strawberries produce many runners.

Everbearing strawberries produce three times over the growing season with three periods of flowers and fruits, once in spring, then mid-season and late season depending on the variety. They do not have runners.

Day neutral strawberries will produce fruit throughout the season and produce only a few runners.

Plant strawberries usually in April (March if ground can be worked) Do not work the soil if it is wet. Wait a few days until it dries. Try to plant the strawberries on a cloudy day or during the late afternoon. Plant the strawberry plant in the soil, with the soil just covering the tops of the roots. Do NOT cover the crown.

The plants will produce runners and new daughter plants after four to five weeks. Soil should be well drained and full sun (at least six hours per day) for the best yields. Space plants 12 to 18 inches apart.

Try not to plant strawberries where peppers, tomatoes, eggplant and potatoes have been grown as these plants can possibly harbor verticillium wilt, which can greatly affect strawberries. They are self fertile but do need bees for pollination.

During the first growing season it is recommended to remove the flowers of June bearing strawberries as soon as they appear. Doing this helps to promote root and runner development insuring a large crop the following year. You may want to consider removing some of the runners throughout the season or your strawberry plants may take over your growing area. Actually some people use strawberry plants for ground cover!

After you plant make sure the soil is firm around the plant and water thoroughly. Generally the rule of thumb is strawberries perform the best when the equivalent of 1 inch of rainwater each week is given. For moist soil types one good soaking each week is enough however water early in the day so leaves have a chance to dry during the day to prevent leaf diseases. We have covered the basics but click on these links below for more information.

All information has been gathered from these articles and please refer to them for more information:

University of Minnesota Extension

<https://extension.umn.edu/fruit/growingstrawberries-home-garden>

University of Illinois Extension

<https://web.extension.illinois.edu/strawberries>