



VEGETABLES – WARM SEASON 2

Sweet Corn



Growing Conditions	Light	Full sun
	Water	Regular irrigation especially when weather is hot and dry
	Fertilizer	Fertilize when plants are 3-4" tall. Add nitrogen fertilizer lightly every 3-4 weeks, watering in well.
	Wind pollinated; plant in blocks of 3-4 rows minimum.	
Common Problems and Tips	Ears, tassels, leaves have gray gnarled growths (galls) that become powdery; smut caused by fungus	Remove galls as soon as seen; keep powder out of soil; plant resistant varieties; plant early.
	Incomplete kernel Development; shriveled kernels	Poor pollination - too few rows planted. Insufficient moisture or fertilizer; Hot windy weather.
	Ears only partly filled Shortened silks	Earwigs - trap and destroy.
	Stalks fall over (lodging)	Excess nitrogen fertilizer - test soil and adjust.

More information: vric.ucdavis.edu/veg_info_crop/corn.htm

www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/GARDEN/VEGES/sweetcorn.html

Melons



Growing Conditions	Light	Full sun, hot temperatures	
	Water	Consistent moisture; when top 2-3" of soil is dry, water down to root zone; use soaker hose; keep leaves dry.	
	Fertilizer	At time of planting, then every 4-6 weeks.	
	Melons require hot temperatures and bees for pollination. Watermelon requires space in the garden.		
Common Problems and Tips	Fine stippling on leaves; leaves yellow or brown, undersides silver-grey with webbing and spots		Spider mites; use oil or soap spray.
	Curled, deformed leaves; black moldy spots.		Aphids; use water spray or soapy spray to remove. Control ants.
	Blotches or tunnels on leaves		Leaf miner; no action needed.
	Bitter, misshapen fruit; poor flavor		Insufficient pollination; hand pollinate. Poor soil fertility – test and fertilize.
	Plants wilt even when soil moist		Fungus disease in roots – remove and discard plants.

More information: vric.ucdavis.edu/veg_info_crop/melon_cantaloupe.htm

www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/GARDEN/VEGES/cantaloupe.html

www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/GARDEN/VEGES/watermelon.html

Cucumber



Growing Conditions	Light	Full sun, hot temperatures
	Water	Consistent moisture; when top 2-3" of soil is dry, water down to root zone; use soaker hose; keep leaves dry.
	Fertilizer	At time of planting, then wait until fruit is set; then every 4-6 weeks.
	Bees required for pollination, attract or hand-pollinate. Keep leaves and fruit off ground with trellis or mulch.	
Common Problems and Tips	Fruit tastes bitter	Avoid growing in cool or shady spots; grow hybrids; peel skin and remove stem.
	Deformed, curled leaves; sticky honeydew or black sooty mold	Aphids; use soapy water spray.
	Leaves turn yellow; sooty mold; tiny white insects fly in cloud	Whiteflies; remove infested leaves and plants; use water spray on underside.
	Leaves with yellow brown specks; vines wilt	Squash bug; trap and remove adults and eggs.
	White powdery spots on leaves; may fall off	Powdery mildew; plant resistant varieties; remove plant debris.

More information: vric.ucdavis.edu/pdf/CUCURBIT/cucumber.pdf
www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/GARDEN/VEGES/cucumbers.html

Summer

Summer & Winter Squash

Winter



Growing Conditions	Light	Full sun, warm temperatures
	Water	Consistent moisture; when top 2-3" of soil is dry, water down to root zone; use soaker hose; keep leaves dry.
	Fertilizer	At time of planting, then wait until fruit is set; then every 4-6 weeks.
	Summer squash grow on bushes; winter squash on bushes and vines. Pumpkins require more space. Summer squash has thin skin; winter squash has hard outer shell.	
Common Problems and Tips	Poor fruit set	Insufficient pollination; attract bees, hand-pollinate.
	Deformed curled leaves, stunted growth; visible small insects on leaves	Aphids; use water spray or soapy spray to remove. Control ants.
	Yellow spots on upper leaf, grayish growth on underneath	Downy mildew (fungus); plant resistant varieties; remove old plant debris.
	Holes in leaves, scarring of young fruit, wilting	Cucumber beetles; use pyrethrins.
	Stunted plants, small leaves with irregular light/dark spots	Mosaic virus (from aphids); remove infected plants; control aphids & weeds. Fruit is edible.

More information: vric.ucdavis.edu/veg_info_crop/pumpkinandsquash.htm

www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/GARDEN/VEGES/squash.html

UCCE Orange County Master Gardeners

<http://mgorange.ucanr.edu>

http://mgorange.ucanr.edu/Gardening_Hotline/

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