



GARDENING IN SMALL SPACES: CONTAINER GARDENING

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- Former Pima County Certified Master Gardener
- Former President of Tucson Organic Gardeners
- SmartScape Certified

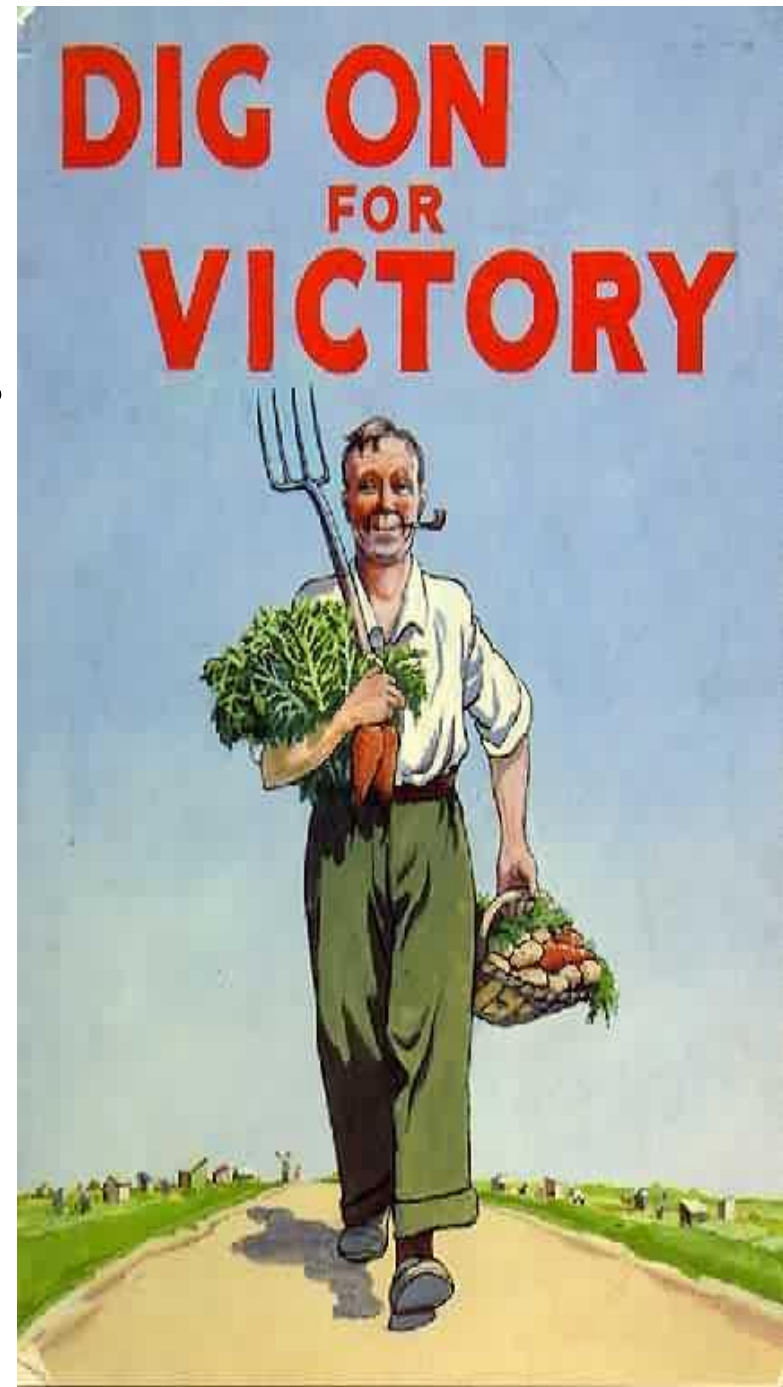




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OUR PHILOSOPHY

- Healthy soil encourages healthy plants
- Healthy plants care for themselves
- Limit external inputs
- Reduce water usage
- Work smarter not harder
- Garden with our climate not against it
- Encourage a natural ecosystem
- Build community through gardening



Container Gardening Pro's



- No Digging
- Space
- Mobility
- Portability
- Aesthetically Pleasing
- Low Water Use*
- Security
- Soil
- Plant Selection*

Unique Challenges

- Limited Space
- Initial Cost
- Plant Selection*
- Frequent Watering*
- Fluoride Toxicity



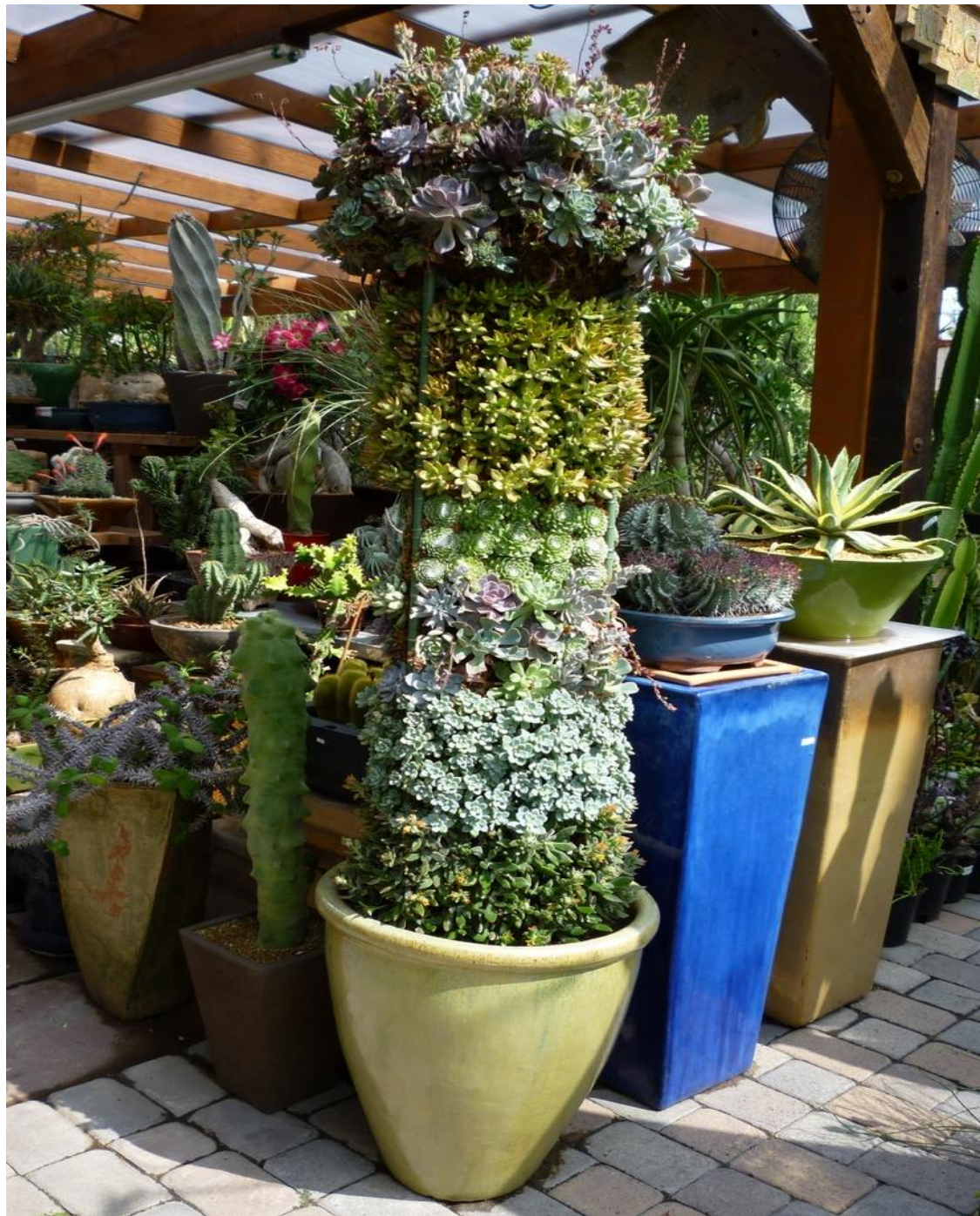
Getting Started - Location

- Right Plant, Right Container, Right Place
- Direct Sun with Afternoon Shade
- Create a “Micro-Climate”
- Plant Hardiness
- Water Source



Selecting a Container

- Permanent or Mobile
- Bigger is Better
- Durable and Long Lasting
- Light Colored
- Proper Drainage
- Non-Toxic
- Avoid Saucers

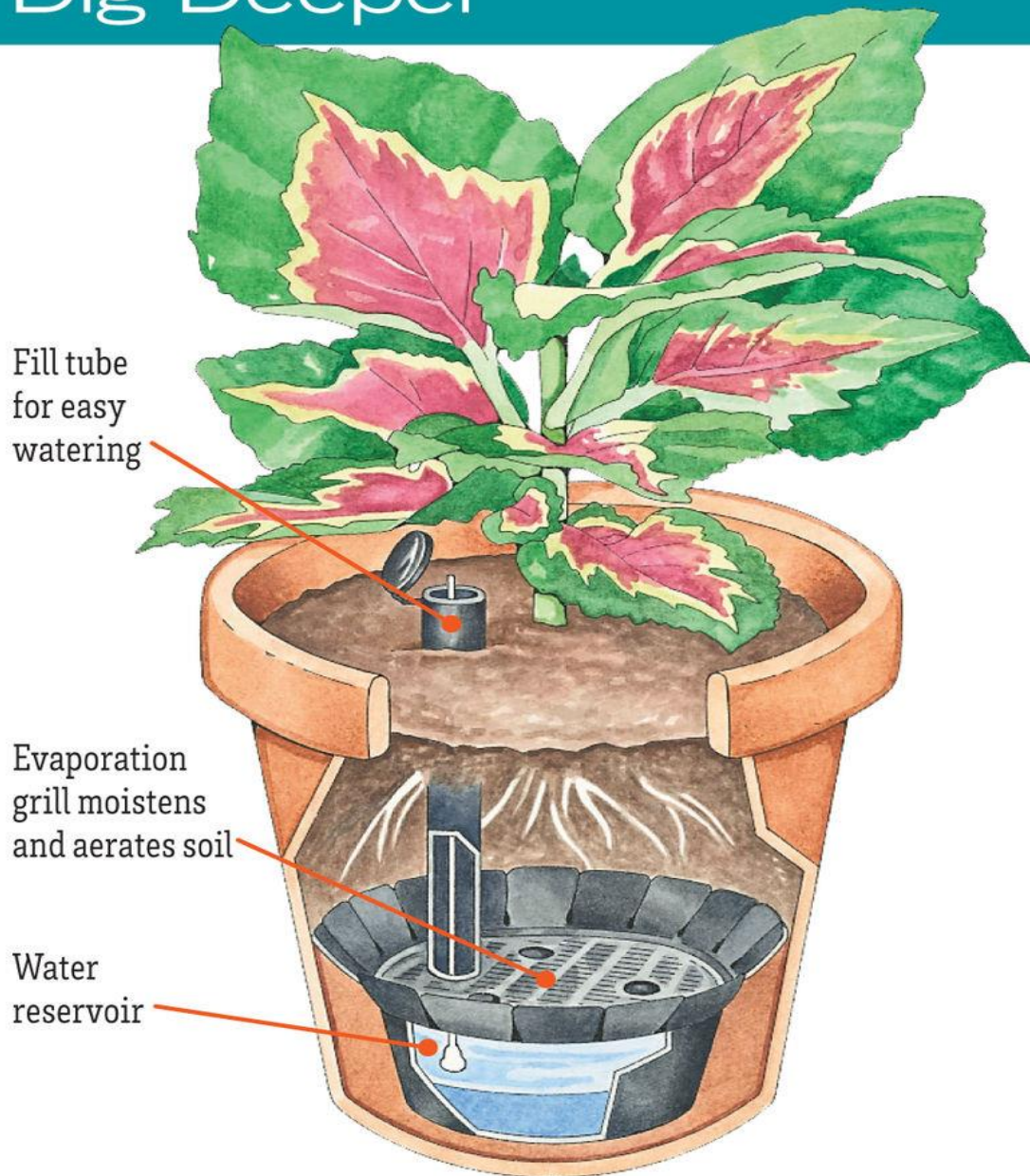




Alternative Options

- Self- Watering Containers
- Raised Beds
- Everything is a Container!

Dig Deeper



Self- Watering Containers

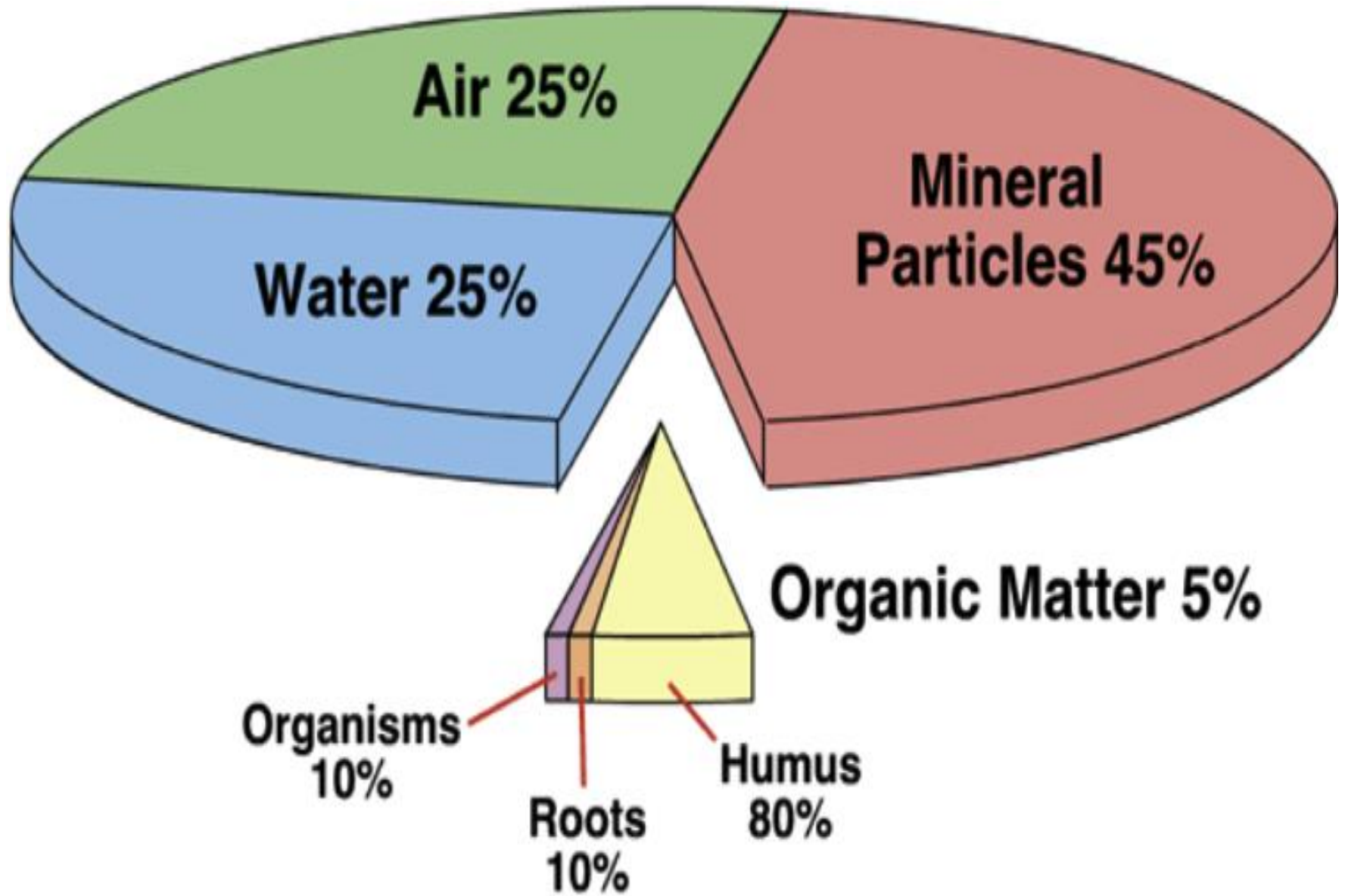
- Water reservoir
- Many Styles
- DIY

Filling your Container

- Avoid Native Soil
- Avoid Peat Based Mixes
- Avoid Woody Mixes
- Avoid Synthetic Mixes
- Avoid Expensive Mixes
- Make your Own and Save!
- Gravel Unnecessary



What is Soil?



What is Potting Mix?

- Compost
- Coco Coir*
- Perlite
- Vermiculite
- Pumice
- Fertilizers
- Amendments



Plant Nutrients

- Compost
- Vermiculite*
- Fertilizers
- Amendments



Aeration and Water Holding Capacity



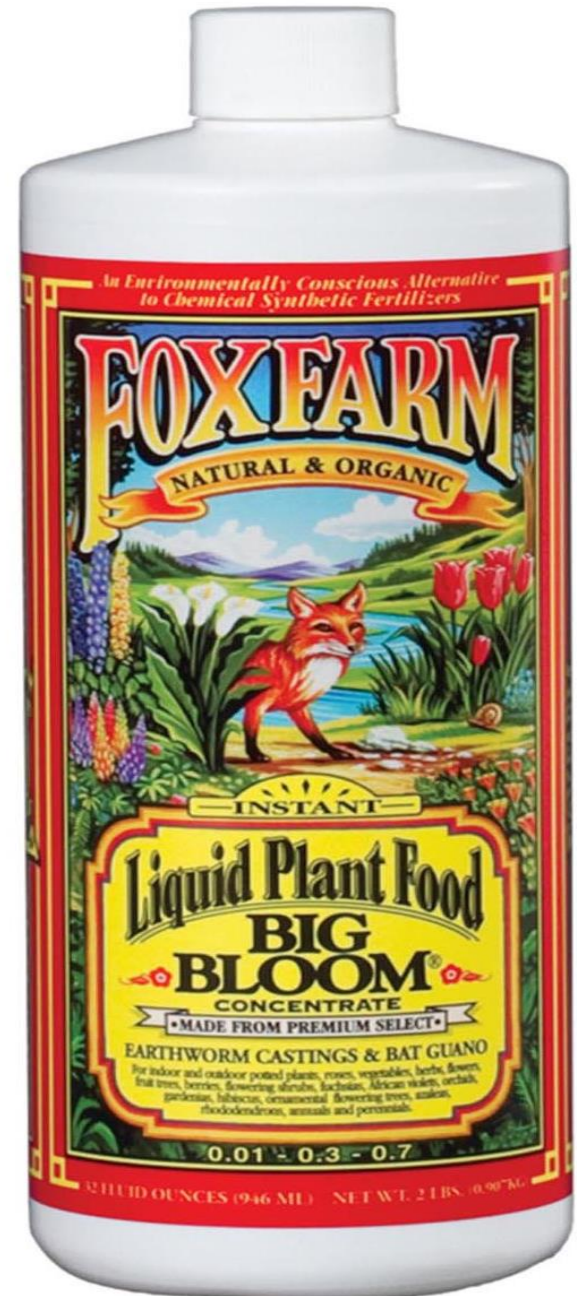
- Coco Coir
- Perlite
- Pumice
- Other Ingredients

POTTING MIX RECIPES:

- Seedlings & Small Pots
 - 2 parts coco peat
 - 1 part compost
 - ½ part perlite
 - ½ part vermiculite
 - Organic fertilizer
- Large Containers
 - 1 part coco peat
 - 2 parts compost
 - ½ part perlite
 - ½ part vermiculite
 - Organic fertilizer
- Raised Beds
 - 5 parts compost
 - 4 parts coco fiber
 - ½ part perlite
 - ½ part vermiculite
 - Organic fertilizer
- Root Cuttings
 - 1 part coco fiber
 - 1 part perlite

Ongoing Maintenance

- Low Dose Frequent Fertilizing
- Water Completely
- Replenish Soil Periodically





Tucson
Organic
Gardeners

soiling our hands since 1971

TUCSON ORGANIC GARDENERS PLANTING GUIDE

FOR TUCSON AND THE LOW DESERT

Jan 1 – Feb 15

FROM SEED

Arugula, Broccoli, Cabbage, Chinese Cabbage, Cauliflower, Celery, Cilantro, Collards, Dill, Fennel, Kale, Lettuce, Mustard Parsley, Bulb Onion (See Graphic), Potato

FROM SEEDLING TRANSPLANT

Artichoke, Broccoli, Cabbage, Chinese Cabbage, Cauliflower, Celery, Cilantro, Collards, Dill, Fennel, Kale, Lettuce, Mustard, Parsley, Spinach, Swiss Chard.

April 15 – May 31

FROM SEED

Amaranth, Basil, Cantaloupe, Cowpea, Cucumber, Malabar Spinach, Melon, Okra, Sorghum, Sweet Potato Slips, Summer Squash, Watermelon

FROM SEEDLING TRANSPLANT

Basil, Eggplant, Pepper

July 15 – August 31

FROM SEED

Bush Beans, Pole Beans, Corn (all types), Cowpea, Cucumber, Cantaloupe, I'tois Onion (See Graphic), Pumpkin, Sorghum Summer and Winter Squash

FROM SEEDLING TRANSPLANT

Tomato (July 15 - Aug 15)

Oct 15 - Nov 15

FROM SEED

Beets, Carrots, Garlic, Greens, Lettuce, Mustard, Pea, Radish, Turnip, Wheat (December – January)

FROM SEEDLING TRANSPLANT

Broccoli, Cabbage, Chinese Cabbage, Cauliflower, Celery, Cilantro, Collards, Dill, Fennel, Kale, Lettuce, Mustard Parsley, Spinach, Swiss Chard

LATE WINTER

SPRING

LATE SPRING

EARLY SUMMER

MONSOON

EARLY FALL

LATE FALL

March 1 – April 15

FROM SEED

Amaranth, Basil, Bush Bean, Corn (Sweet), Cucumber, Jerusalem Artichoke, Malabar Spinach, Melon, Pumpkin, Sesame, Sorghum, Summer and Winter Squash, Tobacco, Watermelon

FROM SEEDLING TRANSPLANT

Basil, Eggplant, Pepper, Tomato, Tomatillo

June 1 – June 15

FROM SEED

Pole Beans, Cantaloupe, Cowpea, Melon, Sweet Potato Slips

Sep 1 – Oct 15

FROM SEED

Arugula, Beet, Bok Choy, Broccoli, Brussels Sprouts, Cabbage, Carrot, Cauliflower, Celery, Chia, Chicory, Chinese Cabbage, Cilantro, Collards, Escarole, Fava, Garbanzo, Greens, Kale, Kohlrabi, Leek, Lentils, Lettuce, Mache, Mustard, Onion (See Graphic), Parsley, Parsnip, Pea, Radish, Rape, Rutabaga, Turnip, Spinach, Swiss Chard

FROM SEEDLING TRANSPLANT

Broccoli, Brussels Sprouts, Cabbage, Chinese Cabbage, Cauliflower, Celery, Cilantro, Dill, Fennel, Kale, Lettuce, Mustard, Parsley, Spinach, Swiss Chard

ONIONS



"SHORT-DAY" BULB ONION SETS
January 1 – February 15

TOHONO O'ODHAM I'TOIS MULTIPLIER ONION
July 15 – February 1

GREEN BUNCHING/SCALLION
August 15 – February 1



Fall Vegetables for Containers



- Swiss Chard
- Kale
- Collards
- Lettuce
- Mustard
- Bok Choy
- Beets
- Carrots
- Turnip
- Peas

Dwarf Fruit Trees

- Dwarf Citrus
- Dwarf Deciduous



Planting Techniques

- Intensive Planting
- Companion Planting
- Play with Color
- Mix Textures
- Think in 3's
- Thrill, Fill, Spill



Course Materials:

The Good Guys at



931 S. Highland Avenue, 85719
(520) 624-1788

- 5 Gallon Buckets:
 - \$1/ 1 Bucket
 - \$.80/ 3 – 10
 - \$.70/ 11 – 20
 - \$.60/ 21 – 50
 - \$.50/ 50+
- 55 Gallon Barrels:
 - \$12/ 1 – 3
 - \$10/ 3+

Resources

- Tanks Green Stuff
- EcoGro
- CFB
- Reading List
- Gardening Clubs
- Local Businesses
- Friends and Family





THANK YOU!

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