

»How To Grow Sweet Potatoes«

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As a staple food highly consumed worldwide due to its high level of carbohydrates and vitamin, sweet potato growing is done in open field or containers.

Sweet potatoes are annual crops grown in warm soil temperatures and they contain beta carotene, vitamin, potassium, manganese, chlorine and fibre and they require 4 months in temperatures of 15 and above degrees

Crop management

Being a tropical crop requiring 6-8 hours daily during growth, sweet potatoes grow well in loose, well drained nutrient rich soils with moisture however, during planting, avoid compact clay soils as they don't allow proper root penetration.

Similarly, when planting , raise beds to 1ft to keep temperature as high as possible while for containers, grow potatoes in 10 gallon size container for good results. Avoid using animal manure as compost for potato growing for big tubers.

Use compost during planting and amend with organic mulches and liquid fertilizers during 4 months of growing and keep soils moist as well. As sweet potatoes are grown from slips, cut 1/4 top of sweet potato tuber and insert in water which are picked and planted/ rooted once they sprout or place tuber in a one door card board and after 9 days it sprouts into shoots which are planted.

Furthermore, place slips after 23 days of sprout in water for root development and after, plant slips in small pots however begin the process 6-8 weeks before planting to main garden. Plant slips directly into organic potting soil and once established with 3-4 nodes on vines, plant them in raised beds.

Space them a foot apart, mulch and complete planting and when harvesting in 4 months time, harvest on a dry day, clean tubers and finally store in warm humid place.