

# Swiss chard farming from seed sowing, planting, care, harvesting

To grow swiss chard, you need to choose a suitable site which should preferably have well drained loamy soils which receive full sun to partial shade with a soil pH range of between 6.0 to 7.0 for optimal growth.

## Field management practices

**Soil preparation.** Prepare the soil by tilling it to a depth of 6 to 8 inches. Incorporate organic matter like compost to enhance soil fertility, structure and water retention. Remove debris and rocks to create an ideal environment for your swiss chard.

**Seed selection and planting.** Obtain high quality seed from a reputable source. You can plant the seeds in the nursery or plant them directly in the field.

The seeds are planted at a depth of about half inches and spaced at an intra row spacing of between 2 to 4 inches and inter row spacing of 12 to 18 inches.

**Fertilization.** Regularly feed swiss chard with balanced fertilizers like compost or general purpose fertilizer every 4 to 6 weeks.

**Harvesting.** Swiss chard is harvested as soon as the leaves attain a useful size usually between 6 to 8 inches in length. Gently cut off the outer leaves at the base of the stem allowing the central growth point to remain undamaged.