

# Onions

**DID YOU KNOW THAT  
THE EARLIEST ONION  
HARVEST DATES BACK TO  
OVER 7,000 YEARS  
AGO?**

## PLANTING AND CARE

With proper growing techniques, home gardeners in the south can easily grow white, yellow and purple onions. Short-day varieties such as 1015 Texas Super Sweet and Yellow Granex are customer favorites. The best time for planting onions is 4-6 weeks before the last frost. For zone 8 that is late January and into February. Onions should be planted into soil that has been prepared with compost and a balanced organic fertilizer or bone meal. Plant about 3 inches apart and 1 inch deep. They are heavy feeders, so feed with fish and seaweed emulsion every three weeks. Stop feeding when they begin to bulb. Consistent watering is also important for onions. Drip irrigation and mulch can help with this. It is important to keep the ground around your plants free of weeds to ensure the nutrients aren't stripped from the soil.



## HARVESTING AND STORING

Your onion plants will continue to grow throughout the remainder of the winter and into the spring. They will be ready for harvest anytime between May and July, which will be evident when the main stem of the plant begins to yellow, fold in half and fall down. Morning is the best time to harvest your onions, as they are not stressed from the heat of the day. After harvesting, lay the onions out in a well-ventilated and shaded place protected from the rain for 3-4 weeks to cure. When the onions are fully dried you can trim the tops to about an inch and store in a cool dry place until you are ready to use them.

**BOB WELLS NURSERY**

*at Sorelle Farms*



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