



**Napa County Master Gardeners
Food Growing Forum
05-11-2021**

**Bountiful Beans &
Summer Fruit Tree
Pruning**



UC Master Gardeners of Napa County
<http://napamg.ucanr.edu/>

Our mission: "To extend research-based knowledge and information on home horticulture, pest management, and sustainable landscape practices to the residents of California and be guided by our core values and strategic initiatives."



Don't be Prickly ... Take Our Survey!

Our follow-up survey provides us the tools we need to grow and improve the quality of our program.

To opt out of the survey, put your first and last name into the chat box.

What's in a
name?

Old World Beans

Vicia faba

Broad beans (fava beans)
grow wild in Himalayan foothills.

7000 years BCE, an improved type is
grown in Thailand.

4000 years BCE they appear as cultivated
crops in Europe.



New World Beans *Phaseolus*

Originated in Mesoamerica and moved southward.

2000 BCE domesticated beans found in Peru archeological site.

“Three sisters” method of growing evolved.



Most of the beans in seed catalogs are *Phaseolus vulgaris*

- Green (snap, string) beans, bush or climbing
- Green, yellow or purple
- French Filet
- Haricots vert
- Fresh shelling beans
- Dry shelling beans, like pinto and kidney beans



Christmas Lima *Phaseolus lunatus*



Romano (Italian flat) Beans

Phaseolus coccineus



Scarlet runner beans *Phaseolus coccineus*



Other types of beans

Vigna unguiculata (yard long bean)

Glycine max (soybean)

Cicer arietinum (Garbanzo or chick pea)

Beans are easy to grow from seed.



- Warm soil: 60-85 F
- Moist soil
- Fertilizer needs are low.
- Plant seeds 1" deep, 2-4" apart.
- Water them in.
- If they are pole type, set up your support at planting.

Sowing the seeds





A purchased
tuteur for
climbing beans



A couple
of classic
ways to
support
pole
beans



Plants emerge in 1 to 2 weeks.



Protect seedlings from birds with some kind of cover.

Berry baskets over individual seedlings



Row cover or netting over the whole planting



Care during the growing season

You might see some of these

Water at ground level.

Don't wet the leaves to avoid fungal problems.



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Harvesting Green Beans

Seed to
harvest about
2 months. Pick
frequently
while young
and tender.

✧ Renee's Garden ✧

Tricolor Bush Beans
Gold, Purple & Green



Harvesting Shelling Beans



Pods should be filled out but still green.

Harvesting Dry Beans

Leave on the vines until pods are dry and brown, about 3 months.



Why plant beans?

- Easy to grow
- Good as part of crop rotation
- Most are open-pollinated and you can save your own seed



Do beans add nitrogen to the soil?



Why bean
seeds can be
saved





Questions?

Type your questions into the chat function.

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