



# Rockin E Gardening Handouts

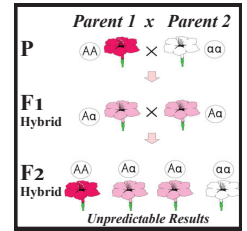
Tips and Suggestions for 'Year-Round' Gardening

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## Hybrid, Non-Hybrid, Open Pollinated - Heirloom



### Definitions

**Heirloom (non-hybrid)** - they are not a special species of plants. They are 'open-pollinated' varieties that have been grown for at least 50 years. They are non-hybrid varieties, and the seeds can be collected and re-planted. Many heirloom varieties are not used in modern 'large-scale' agriculture, but they are used extensively in home gardens.

**Open pollinated (non-hybrid)** - Pollination occurs by insects, birds, wind, or other natural mechanisms. The variety will grow 'true-to-type', which means the seeds will produce plants identical to the parent plant, year after year.

When harvesting seed, if the best 2/3 of the crop is used for seed, the variety will hold it's qualities. If only the best 1/2, or less, of the crop is used for seed, the variety will improve. Varieties that have been cultivated less than 50 years are not considered heirloom varieties.

**F1 Hybrids** - These varieties are the results of controlled, specially pollination procedures. Generally, two open pollinated varieties are

planted side by side, ensuring that every seed will receive pollen from one variety (father) and grown on a distinctively different variety (mother). Each seed is genetically identical. The plant is different than both parents, and has distinctive characteristics from one or both of the parents. Hand pollination, isolation, or physical barriers are often used in the pollination process.

**F1 Hybrids** usually have better qualities, better flavor, higher yields, or in some way have better traits than their traditional, open pollinated parent varieties. You cannot save and replant seeds from the F1 Hybrids; sometimes the seed may be sterile.

**F2 Hybrids** - The seed from the F1 hybrid plants are called F2 Hybrids. The seed will not be identical to the parents, and, the seed will not always produce desirable results. The results from the seed will be random, and you will not know until harvest what the results will be; worse, same or better.

### Heirloom Advantages and Disadvantages

They produce large numbers of seeds and bear fruit identical to the parents. They are considered flavorful, and may even be superior

to commercially-produced, hybrid varieties.

Heirloom tomatoes have a long record of producing healthy tomatoes without many disease problems; but commercial growers disagree. Many tomato diseases cannot be chemically controlled; the plant's genetics have to withstand them.

Many heirloom tomatoes have unique shapes and have a variety of colors, including purple, yellow, white, orange, pink, red, green, black, and striped.

However, some gardeners don't want unusual, misshapen, or inconsistent tomatoes. They simply want lots of red, juicy ones; they want hybrids.

Heirlooms usually take longer to mature and often produce fewer tomatoes than hybrids. You have to decide which is best for your garden.

### Genetically Modified or Engineered (GMO)

The DNA of the plant has been changed. Through laboratory means, one plant's genetics are implanted into another plant, where it would never have occurred naturally.

*Whether to use hybrid seeds or non-hybrid seeds is a personal question for each gardener. Both types of seeds have their pros and cons.*

*This is not a complete list. Many other non-hybrid varieties may be available from different sources.*

## Common 'Non-Hybrid' Vegetable Varieties

### Beans

- Black Valentine
- Blue Lake Pole
- Blue Lake Bush
- Commodore
- Edamame
- Fordhook Lima
- Golden Wax
- Kentucky Wonder
- Pencil Pod
- Provider
- Romano
- Royal Burgundy
- Scarlet Runner
- Tendergreen
- Top Crop
- Windsor Fava

many more.

### Non Hybrid Seeds



plus



Equals



Same

### Beets

- Bull's Blood
- Chioggia
- Cylindra
- Detroit Dark Red

- Early Wonder
- Ruby Queen
- Chioggia

many more.

### Carrots

- Chantenay Royal
- Danvers Half Long
- Little Finger
- Nantes Scarlet
- Imperator 58
- Lunar White
- Cosmic Purple

many more.

### Broccoli

- Waltham #29 Broccoli

### Brussel Sprouts

- Long Island Brussel Sprouts

### Cabbage

- Copenhagen Cabbage
- Danish Ball Head Cabbage
- Golden Ace Cabbage

### Cauliflower

- Early Snowball Cauliflower

### Utah Celery

### Collards

- Georgia
- Champion

### Corn

- Most corn varieties are hybrid.
- Golden Cross Bantam
- South American Popcorn
- Strawberry Corn

### Hybrid Seeds



plus



Equals



Different

### Cucumbers

- Armenian
- Boston Pickling
- Homemade Pickles
- Lemon
- Marketmore #76
- Poinsett #76
- Straight Eight

### Eggplant

- Black Beauty
- Long Purple
- Thai Green

*If you grow open-pollinated (non-hybrid) varieties, you can save their seed, replant it the next year, and get the same results.*

*To maintain the best characteristics, be sure to only harvest seeds from the top 20% of the plants.*

*If you grow hybrid varieties, you must go back to the original seed source, and purchase new seed to plant each year.*



*You cannot save their seed, replant it the next year, and get the same results. There is no way to predict what the plant will produce.*

## Herbs

Anise	Oregano
Basil, Cinnamon	Parsley, Curled
Basil, Genovese	Parsley, Italian
Basil, Lemon	Mint
Basil, Spicy Globe	-most varieties
Basil, Sweet	Rosemary
Borage	Sage
Caraway	Savory
Chamomile	Sorrel, French
Chervil	Tansy
Chives	Thyme
Garlic Chives	<i>many more.</i>
Comfrey	
Coriander/Cilantro	
Cumin	
Dill	
Fennel	
Horehound	
Lavender, English	
Catnip, Lemon	
Marjoram, sweet	

## Kohlrabi

Early Purple Vienna Kohlrabi  
Early White Vienna Kohlrabi

## Leeks

American Flag  
Caretan

## Lettuce & Salad Greens

Black Seeded Simpson	Paris White
Buttercrunch	Prizehead
Great Lakes	Salad Bowl
Iceberg	Tom Thumb
Oak Leaf	<i>many more.</i>
Arugula	
Mesclum Mix	
Endive	
Corn Salad (Mache)	

## HEIRLOOM SEEDS

*Any Seed Variety 50+ Years Old*



*Growing a Taste of Yesterday - Today*

## Melons

Casaba  
Crenshaw  
Hearts of Gold Cantaloupe  
Minnesota Midget Cantaloupe  
Hale's Best Cantaloupe  
*many more.*

## Onion

Tokyo Long White Bunching  
Red Burgundy  
Walla Walla  
White Sweet Spanish  
Yellow Sweet Spanish  
*many more.*

## Pak Choi

## Parsnips

Hollow Crown Harris Model  
All American

## Peas

Early Frosty  
Green Arrow  
Laxton Progress #9  
Little Marvel  
Sugar Ann  
Sugar Sprint  
Dwarf, Gray Sugar  
Oregon Sugar Pod  
*many more.*

## Peppers, Hot

Anaheim  
Fresno Chili  
Habanero  
Jalapeno  
Long Red Cayenne  
Large Red Cherry  
Tai Hot  
Yellow Wax  
Serrano  
Anchos  
Ghost  
*many more.*

## Peppers, Sweet

California Wonder  
Sunbright  
Sweet Banana  
Large Red Cherry  
Yolo Wonder  
Sunbright  
Chocolalte Bell  
Cubanelle  
Pimento  
Purple Beauty  
Orange Bell  
*many more.*

## Pumpkins

Big Max  
Howden  
Dill's Atlantic Giant  
Jack Be Little  
New England Pie  
Turks Turban  
Baby Bear  
Casper  
Big Moose  
*many more.*

## Radish

Cherry Belle  
Crimson Giant  
Easter Egg  
French Breakfast  
Hailstone  
Japanese Minowase  
Plum Purple  
Watermelon  
White Icicle  
*many more.*

## Rutabaga

American Purple Top

## Spinach

Bloomsdale  
New Zealand

## Summer Squash

Black Beauty Zucchini  
Early Prolific Straightneck  
Golden Scallop  
White Patty Pan  
Yellow Crookneck *many more.*

## Winter Squash

Blue Hubbard  
Buttercup  
Butternut  
Spaghetti  
Table Queen Acorn  
Turks Turbin  
Sweet Dumpling  
Pink Banana  
Delicata  
Sweet Meat  
Green Hubbard  
*many more.*

## Swiss Chard

Fordhook Giant  
Lucullus  
Rhubarb Chard  
Ruby Red  
Orange Fantasia  
Rainbow  
Pink Lipstick  
*many more.*

## Tomatoes

*Most tomato varieties are hybrid.*

Ace  
Amana Orange  
Beefsteak  
Bonny Best  
Brandywine, Pink  
Brandywine, Red  
Jubilee  
Large Red Cherry  
Longkeeper  
Marglobe  
Red Pear  
Rutgers  
Amish Paste  
Black Cherry  
Black Krim  
Caspian Pink  
Mortgage Lifter  
Mr. Strikey  
Tiny Tim  
Belgium Giant  
San Marzano  
Yellow Pear  
Roma  
*many more.*

## Turnips

Purple Top White  
Seven Top  
Shogoin

## Watermelon

Sugar Baby  
Charleston Gray  
Klondike Blue  
Crimson Sweet  
Winter Queen  
Mountain Sweet  
Moon & Stars  
*many more.*



### Note:

**This is not a complete list. Many other non-hybrid varieties may also be available from different sources.**