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URBAN FARMER

LOVE THE EARTH

From Seed to Harvest:
A beginner's guide to growing parsnips

Parsnips are a root vegetable that look similar to a carrot, though they are paler in color and have a stronger taste. Parsnips have a long growing season and should be planted as soon as the soil can be worked.

To plant:
Sow seeds ½ inch deep and 1 inch apart in soil mixed with compost. Seedlings will begin in two to three weeks. Parsnips also can be started inside, where you can mix the seeds with compost in a bag and then tie off the bag. Leave the bag in a warm, dark place and seedlings should sprout within a week. After they've sprouted, transplant the seedlings to the garden.

To grow:
Once seedlings appear, thin them to 3 to 6 inches apart. Parsnips require 1 inch of water per week and full sun. With their green tops, parsnips can reach 3 feet high so plant in an area where the shade won't harm other plants. Parsnips do best in soil with a pH of 6.0 to 6.8.

To harvest:
Parsnips take approximately 16 weeks to mature, and their flavor is enhanced by enduring a few frosts. Parsnips also can be left in the ground throughout the winter and then harvested in the spring. If leaving the parsnips in the ground, cover thickly with mulch. To harvest, trim the leaves to 1 inch above the root. Loosen the soil with a fork and carefully pick the roots. Roots can reach up to 12 inches long and 2 inches in diameter.

What parsnips crave:
Prior to planting, spread compost or manure across the planting site and mix it with the

Hollow Corn Parsnip seeds
available at ufseeds.com

soil. Fertilization can be done by using a 10-10-10 fertilizer and working it into the soil with a fork, as root vegetables do best growing in fluffy soil. Apply a side dressing of fertilizer six weeks after planting the parsnips.

Where to buy parsnip seeds:
Urban Farmer offers parsnip seeds on our website at ufseeds.com!

100% Non-GMO Seed   One Day Shipping   100% Satisfaction Guarantee   Family Owned +Operated

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