

Cole Crops

Cole crops are cabbage and related plants such as broccoli, Brussels sprouts, kohlrabi, kale, collards, turnips, and cauliflower. They do best in cold weather. All have basically the same cultural requirements, disease, and insect pests. Almost any soil is suitable for growing cole crops, provided it is well drained and in a sunny location.

Set out transplants for summer harvest in April after the danger of a hard frost has passed. Plant them 20 inches apart with 2 ½ feet between rows to ensure adequate growing room. Place a cardboard or newspaper collar around each transplant to prevent cutworm damage. Water cole crops during periods of drought for best yield and quality. Cultivate shallowly when weeding, since the roots are close to the soil surface and easily injured.

The **Master Gardener Hotline** is open from April to October, Monday through Friday. Lines are available 9:00 am to noon and 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm at 888-678-3464

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