TOMATOES
• Tomatoes prefer partial or afternoon shade (in the Tucson basin). Without afternoon shade, they tend to abort more flowers during the really hot days and you get fewer and smaller fruits.

• Tomatoes can grow in a container, but it’s important to make sure the pot is large. Plant size correlates to root size, so plan accordingly to keep your plants from being stunted.

• Punta Bandas and Nichols do well when staked/tied up or put in tomato cages, but do not sucker them as it stresses the plant and can decrease yield.

• Ciudad Victoria and Texas Wild do well when allowed to sprawl out along the ground. They do not fare quite as well when staked/tied up or in cages, but you can still do this if you need to.

• Watch out for horn worms! Interplant your tomatoes with basil to help mask scent of tomato and confuse horn worms.

CHILES
• Plant in full sun to partial shade.

• Can be container grown, but as with all plants make sure the pot is large enough.

• Staking chiles as they grow (or providing some form of support) can help prevent them from breaking on windy days.

Basil
• Basil will grow in full sunlight, but partial shade helps produce bigger leaves and prevents earlier bolting.

• Interplanting basil with tomatoes can help provide the slight shade needed above, while masking tomato scent to help ward off horn worms.

• Basil can easily be grown in containers, even on a kitchen windowsill, for easy use.

GENERAL NOTES
• Growing plants in containers often requires more water (the soil dries out quicker due to more surface area for the sun to hit). Thus container planted plants will need to be watched more closely and/or planted in a spot with a little more shade.

• Our potting soil mix is 2 parts peat moss, 2 parts compost, 1 part vermiculite.