

GROWING HARDNECK GARLIC

Growing Hardneck garlic is a simple process with very little effort for such a big reward. 20 Cloves will plant a 10-foot row or a 3 ft. x 3 ft. square properly spaced. Garlic is typically planted in fall and harvested the next year when the tops start dying back. (Plant separated cloves within a couple weeks of receiving them, if at all possible, to reduce drying out so viability stays intact)

- 1. Find an area that is well drained and has good sunlight. Garlic likes a soil PH of 6-7, so not too sweet and not to acid. Add Lime or sulfur accordingly. *(note see below)
- 2. Work the soil and add a small amount of fertilizer such as a 10-10-10 product. Do not over fertilize (6 oz. for a 10ft row or 3 ft. square area). Water the area well if dry. Rake and smooth. Well-aged manure or compost may be substituted if worked in well.
- 3. Come back in a few days, rake any weeds that have come up and you are ready to plant.
- 4. Garlic needs spaced 6 inches apart in all directions. Build a slight ridge where the garlic cloves will be planted and then push the clove in the soil 1 inch. Cover and firm the soil.
- 5. Apply a mulch of chopped leaves, chopped straw or grass clippings to the area where the garlic has been planted (4-6 inches deep). Water if needed. **THAT IS IT**.
- 6. In early spring apply one more light helping of fertilizer.
- 7. Harvest Garlic when the tops are turning brown and about $\frac{1}{2}$ died back.

NOTE: *Always consult your local County Extension Service on local planting times, questions on local soil treatments and preferred local mulches.