

URBAN FARMER

LOVE THE EARTH

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

Okra may not be a common vegetable found in a garden, but it makes for good canning and pickling. It also can be used in stews. Okra is a warm-weather plant often grown in southern climates. It has a taste similar to eggplant.

To plant:

Soak the okra in water for 12 to 18 hours prior to planting to soften the outer shell of the seed. Plant okra in the spring or early summer after the danger of frost has passed. In northern climates, plant okra indoors four to six weeks prior to the last frost date. Since okra can reach 6 feet tall, plant it in an area of the garden where its shade won't harm other plants' growth. Plant the seeds 1 inch deep in rows 3 feet apart in an area that receives full sun.

To grow:

Once seedlings appear, thin them to 12 to 18 inches apart. Water 1 inch per week and mulch to prevent weeds. Okra does best in soil with a pH of 5.8 to 6.8.

To harvest:

Okra plants can produce crop for 10 to 12 weeks. Okra is ready two months after planting. Pods should be approximately 3 inches long when harvested. The larger they grow, the tougher the pods become so harvest regularly. Wear gloves while harvesting because okra has spines.

What okra craves:

Prior to planting, mix a 10-10-10 fertilizer in with the soil. Once okra reaches 6 inches tall, give a side-dressing of fertilizer. Side-dress again two to three weeks later. Reapply the fertilizer every four to six weeks throughout its growing season.



[Cow Horn Okra seeds](#)
[available at ufseeds.com](#)

Chicken manure can be used instead of a chemical fertilizer, as it is high in potassium and phosphorous.

Where to buy okra seeds:

Urban Farmer sells many different kinds of okra, ranging in colors and also offering a spineless variety. Check out our website at [ufseeds.com!](http://ufseeds.com)



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Non-GMO Seed



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