



EDIBLE
GARDENING
SERIES

Rhubarb

Known as “the pie plant,” rhubarb is a deciduous vegetable prized for its mouth-puckering tartness which adds zest to pies, tarts, cold soups, jams and other desserts. The rhubarb plant gets 3 to 4 feet tall with a 3- to 4-foot spread. It has thick succulent edible red or green leaf stalks. The stalks can grow up to 18 inches long and can get a diameter of 1 to 2 inches. The leaves are poisonous, so do not eat. Hardy to -20°F.

EXPOSURE

Full sun to part shade.

PLANTING

- Space your rhubarb plants 4 feet apart
- The planting hole for your rhubarb should be dug extra large and deep (it is recommended 3 feet by 3 feet). Amend planting with **Lime**, **Gardner & Bloome Harvest Supreme** and **Dr. Earth Starter Fertilizer** (half Harvest Supreme to half existing soil).
- Water in well with **Bonide Root n Grow**.
- Mulch with 2 to 4 inches of **Harvest Supreme Compost** around rhubarb being careful not to put on top of the crown.

Plant Me Perfect



FERTILIZING

In spring after growth starts and again in the summer after harvest. Use **Dr. Earth Fruit Tree Fertilizer** and 1 cup of lime applied in a circle around plant. Every spring, add 2 to 4 inches of Harvest Supreme Compost around the crown of your rhubarb.

PRUNING

In the late fall remove any foliage, and compost. Divide and reset plants every 4th or 5th year.

HARVESTING

Harvest time is usually mid- to late spring (April to May)

- Do not harvest stalks the first year. Allow the plants to get their roots established.
- Wait for the 2nd or 3rd year.
- Do not harvest more than a third of the stalks/leaves. It needs its leaves to keep plant strong.
- Harvest rhubarb either by cutting the stems at soil level or pulling up at the stems.

CHECK LIST

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|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rhubarb Plant(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> Bonide Root n Grow |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Harvest Supreme Planting Compost | <input type="checkbox"/> Dr. Earth Fruit Tree Fertilizer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dr. Earth Starter Fertilizer | <input type="checkbox"/> Lime |

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