# Peppers

- **Light**: Full sun
- **Water**: Consistent moisture; when top 2-3" of soil is dry, water down to root zone; use soaker hose; keep leaves dry.
- **Fertilizer**: At time of planting, then wait until fruit is set; then every 4-6 weeks.
- **Common Problems and Tips**:
  - Plants don’t grow; flowers drop; no fruit: Too cold; wait until nights are warmer.
  - Deformed curled leaves, stunted growth; visible small insects on leaves: Aphids; use water spray or soapy spray to remove. Control ants.
  - Plants wilt even when soil moist: Fungus disease in roots - remove and discard plants.
  - Large water-soaked spot at blossom end, turns black and moldy: Blossom-end rot, caused by uneven watering. Keep soil moisture consistent.
  - Buds or peppers may drop, have holes, are misshapen, blotches: Weevils; destroy plant after harvest to eliminate.

# Eggplant

- **Light**: Full sun; warm to hot temperatures
- **Water**: Consistent moisture; when top 2-3" of soil is dry, water down to root zone; use soaker hose; keep leaves dry.
- **Fertilizer**: At time of planting, then wait until fruit is set; then every 4-6 weeks.
- **Common Problems and Tips**:
  - Buds or fruits turn yellow, may drop; fruit has holes, misshapen: Pepper weevil; destroy plants after harvest; rotate crops.
  - Deformed curled leaves, stunted growth; visible small insects on leaves: Aphids; use water spray or soapy spray to remove. Control ants.
  - Normal colored but small fruit: flattened: Inadequate pollination; full sun, tap flowers to aid.
  - Large water-soaked spot at blossom end, turns black and moldy: Blossom-end rot, due to uneven watering. Keep moisture consistent; mulch.
  - Small holes in leaves: Flea beetle; tolerate. Not a disease; ignore.
SNAP BEANS - BUSH and POLE

**Growing Conditions**
- **Light**: Full sun
- **Water**: Consistent moisture; when top 2-3" of soil is dry, water down to root zone; use soaker hose; keep leaves dry.
- **Fertilizer**: At time of planting, then every 4-6 weeks.
- Most beans need support – trellis or poles or fence
- Roots are shallow - weed carefully

**Common Problems and Tips**
- Plants wilted, too small, yellow leaves
- Soil too wet, poor drainage, needs more fertilizer. Provide better drainage, add nitrogen, use mulch.
- Curled, deformed leaves; black moldy spots.
- Aphids; use water spray or soapy spray to remove. Control ants.
- Blossoms drop off, no fruit
- Too hot, soil too dry.
- Plants wilt even when soil moist
- Fungus disease in roots - remove and discard plants.
- Leaves spotty white or yellow, grey underneath
- Spider mite; use water or soapy spray to remove.

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TOMATO

**Growing Conditions**
- **Light**: Full sun
- **Water**: Consistent moisture; when top 2-3" of soil is dry, water down to root zone; use soaker hose; keep leaves dry.
- **Fertilizer**: At time of planting, then wait until fruit is set; then every 4-6 weeks.
- Tomatoes need support – keep fruit off ground

**Common Problems and Tips**
- Fruit does not set; flowers drop
- Cold nights; days too hot (over 90°F every day); not enough sunlight.
- Leaves disappear or partially gone
- Weevils, caterpillars, snails, slugs - pick off.
- Plants wilt even when soil moist; plants turn yellow
- Fungus disease in roots - remove and discard plants; replant in different location.
- Fruits are black/brown on bottom
- Blossom-end rot, caused by high salt and uneven watering. Keep soil moisture at consistent level.
- Fruit has large cracks around stem
- Too much water; remove fruit when ripe; keep soil moisture at consistent level.

http://vric.ucdavis.edu/main/veg_info.htm
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CUCUMBER</th>
<th>SUMMER &amp; WINTER SQUASH</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Light</strong></td>
<td>Full sun, hot temperatures</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Water</strong></td>
<td>Consistent moisture; when top 2-3&quot; of soil is dry, water down to root zone; use soaker hose; keep leaves dry.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Fertilizer</strong></td>
<td>At time of planting, then wait until fruit is set; then every 4-6 weeks.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Bees</strong></td>
<td>Required for pollination or hand-pollinate. Keep leaves and fruit off ground with trellis or mulch.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Fruit</strong></td>
<td>Tastes bitter; avoid growing in cool or shady spots; grow hybrids; peel skin and remove stem.</td>
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<td><strong>Deformed, curled leaves; sticky honey-dew or black sooty mold</strong></td>
<td>Aphids; use soapy water spray.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Leaves turn yellow; sooty mold; tiny white insects fly in cloud</strong></td>
<td>Whiteflies; remove infested leaves and plants; use water spray on underside.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Leaves with yellow brown specks; vines wilt</strong></td>
<td>Squash bug; trap and remove adults and eggs.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>White powdery spots on leaves; may fall off</strong></td>
<td>Powdery mildew; use resistant varieties; remove plant debris.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

| Light | Full sun, warm temperatures |
| Water | Consistent moisture; when top 2-3" of soil is dry, water down to root zone; use soaker hose; keep leaves dry. |
| Fertilizer | At time of planting, then wait until fruit is set; then every 4-6 weeks. |
| **Summer squash** | Grow on bushes; winter squash on bushes and vines. Pumpkins require more space. |
| **Poor fruit set** | Insufficient pollination; bees or hand-pollinate. |
| **Deformed curled leaves, stunted growth; visible small insects on leaves** | Aphids; use water spray or soapy spray to remove. Control ants. |
| **Yellow spots on upper leaf, grayish growth on underneath** | Downy mildew (fungus); use resistant varieties; remove old plant debris. |
| **Stunted plants, small leaves with irregular light/dark spots** | Mosaic virus (from aphids); remove infected plants; control aphids & weeds. Fruit is edible. |
| **Holes in leaves, scarring of young fruit, wilting** | Cucumber beetles; use pyrethrins. |

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**SWEET CORN**

**Growing Conditions**
- **Light**: Full sun
- **Water**: Regular irrigation especially when weather is hot and dry
- **Fertilizer**: Fertilize when plants are 3-4" tall. Add nitrogen fertilizer lightly every 3-4 weeks, watering in well.

**Wind pollinated; plant in blocks of 3-4 rows minimum.**

**Common Problems and Tips**
- Ears, tassels, leaves have gray gnarled growths (galls) that become powdery; smut caused by fungus
  - Remove galls as soon as see them; keep powder out of soil; plant resistant varieties; plant early.
- Incomplete kernel development; shriveled kernels
  - Poor pollination - too few rows planted. Insufficient moisture or fertilizer; Hot windy weather.
- Ears only partly filled; shortened silks
  - Earwigs - trap and destroy.
- Stalks fall over (lodging)
  - Excess nitrogen fertilizer - test soil and adjust.

**Common Problems**
- Incomplete kernel Development; shriveled kernels
  - Poor pollination - too few rows planted. Insufficient moisture or fertilizer; Hot windy weather.
- Ears only partly filled; shortened silks
  - Earwigs - trap and destroy.
- Stalks fall over (lodging)
  - Excess nitrogen fertilizer - test soil and adjust.

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**MELONS**

**Growing Conditions**
- **Light**: Full sun, hot temperatures
- **Water**: Consistent moisture; when top 2-3" of soil is dry, water down to root zone; use soaker hose; keep leaves dry.
- **Fertilizer**: At time of planting, then every 4-6 weeks.

**Melons require bees for pollination. Watermelon requires space in the garden**

**Common Problems and Tips**
- Fine stippling on leaves; leaves yellow or brown, undersides silver-grey with webbing and spots
  - Spider mites; use oil or soap spray.
- Curled, deformed leaves; black moldy spots
  - Aphids; use water spray or soapy spray to remove. Control ants.
- Blotches or tunnels on leaves
  - Leaf miner; no action needed.
- Plants wilt even when soil moist
  - Fungus disease in roots - remove and discard plants.
- Bitter, misshapen fruit; poor flavor
  - Insufficient pollination; hand pollinate. Poor soil fertility - test and fertilize.

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