

Sowing Seeds

S1. Seed packets

Seeds come in all shapes and sizes and there are many different ways to sow seeds. For example, carrot and lettuce seeds are sprinkled into soil or compost all together as they are too small to handle separately. Larger seeds like beans or sweet corn are easy to pick up and sow one by one. Seeds may be sown indoors or outside, in containers or straight in the soil. They may be sown in blocks or rows, or scattered over a large area.

Even the most experienced gardeners don't know how to sow every type of seed so we don't expect you to either! The most important thing is knowing where to find the information.

The first place to look is the seed packet.

Logo

The symbol of the seed company

Vegetable name

The English common name of the major vegetable crop, in this case 'sweet corn'.

Variety name

There are many varieties of each vegetable. Each sweet corn variety has different characteristics. Some are tall, some short, some produce corn early, some later, and some taste much sweeter than others. There are even varieties which produce purple and red corn!

Sowing time

The best months for sowing this sweet corn in Britain are April and May. Sowing dates will be different in countries with different climates.

Number of seeds in the packet

Large sweet corn seeds are usually packed in small quantities, but a packet of small seeds may contain several hundred seeds!

Picture of the plant

The picture shows you what you can expect to grow.

Harvest time

The months when this sweet corn is ready to pick. This can vary in extreme weather conditions and different climates. Longer month names are typically abbreviated to the first 3 or 4 letters as seen here for August and September.

Tag line

A short statement saying why you should grow the variety.



FRONT

Sowing Seeds

S1. Seed packets (continued)

Name

The vegetable and variety name as on the front. Sometimes the botanical Latin name is also written here.

Growing instructions

A very brief guide to sowing the seeds and planting the plants. The instructions assume the reader already has some gardening knowledge. You can easily find more detailed instruction in a gardening book or online.

Company information

The address and website of the seed company that produced the seeds.

Sow by date

The months and year before which you should sow the seeds. The seeds may not germinate after this date because they are old or have dried out.

Packing date

The months and year the seeds were put in the packet.

Growing calendar

An annual guide to when to sow the seeds, plant the seedlings outside and harvest the crop. Initials are typically used to represent the names of the month.

Description

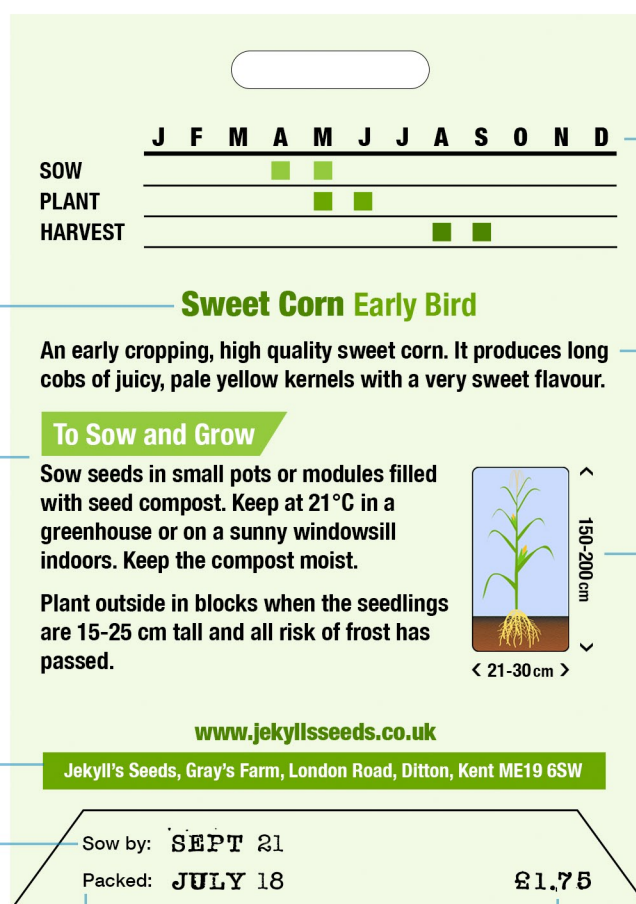
A few sentences describing the plant. The type of information will differ between plants, but can include appearance, growth habit, health, history and, for edible plants, taste.

Plant size

The height and spread of the plant when it is fully grown, usually written in centimetres. This information is important when working out how far apart to grow the plants and how many you can grow in a space.

Cost

The retail price of the seed packet.



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PLANT [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

HARVEST [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

Sweet Corn Early Bird

An early cropping, high quality sweet corn. It produces long cobs of juicy, pale yellow kernels with a very sweet flavour.

To Sow and Grow

Sow seeds in small pots or modules filled with seed compost. Keep at 21°C in a greenhouse or on a sunny windowsill indoors. Keep the compost moist.

Plant outside in blocks when the seedlings are 15-25 cm tall and all risk of frost has passed.

150-200 cm
< 21-30 cm >

www.jekyllsseed.co.uk

Jekyll's Seeds, Gray's Farm, London Road, Ditton, Kent ME19 6SW

Sow by: **SEPT 21**

Packed: **JULY 18**

£1.75

BACK