

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.



FRONT

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.

