



Summer

Squash



Image Courtesy of:
<https://www.google.co.za/search?q=summer+squash>

Common Name: Summer Squash

Scientific Name: Cucurbita

Family: Cucurbitaceae

Requirements

Season: Summer

Sun: Full Sun, Sensitive to cold

Water: Regular watering

Climate: Regular watering

Soil Notes: Light, well-drained, moisture retentive. Form into prepared hills 3 feet apart. 6 seeds ½ inch deep in circle on top of hill. Clip weaker seedlings. Extra compost.

Harvest Time : 60-70 days

DEFICIENCY NOTES:

Vine Borer- 1-inch long white caterpillar. Tunnel into stem- look for holes. Cut a slit and destroy larvae

Squash Bugs- gray brown ¾ inch. Wilting and blackened leaves- hand pick and drop in soapy water- destroy red brown egg clusters under leaves. Lay boards- traps.

Cucumber beetle- black headed green/ yellow wings- bacterial wilt. Hand pick daily in early am.

Diseases:

- Anthracnose, a soilborne fungus, causes leaves to develop hollow, water-soaked spots that eventually grow large and brown.
- Bacterial wilt is a disease that causes plants to wilt suddenly; infected plants usually die quickly.

- Downy mildew produces yellow-brown spots on leaf surfaces and downy purple spots on the undersides. These spots eventually spread, and the leaves die.
- Mosaic, a viral disease that results in rough, mottled leaves, stunted growth, and whitish fruit, is spread by cucumber beetles and aphids. Reduce the chance of disease by controlling problem insects.
- Powdery mildew causes fuzzy white spots on leaves. Affected leaves are distorted, and the plant may appear stunted.