

# Artichoke Planting and Care Summary

Artichokes can be started from seeds.

Germination in 14-21 days at 70-75°.

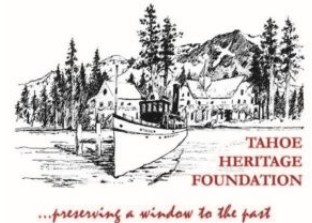
Germination rates of 60-80%

Seeds can be started indoors 12-16 weeks prior to the last frost.

Transplant outdoors after hardening seedlings. Young plants are frost sensitive

For first year production 10 days vernalization (chilling hours) are needed - 10 days with temperature between 32° and 50° for at least 3 hours / day

- Fertilize every two weeks with a 5-5-5 or similar product. 3-4 ounces/plant.



# Artichoke Planting and Care Summary II

- Artichokes do best in that are slightly acidic (5.5-6.5 pH)
- Plant in sunny area. Space plants 3-4 ft. apart
- Can be grown in containers (1/2 wine barrel)
- Artichokes need warm conditions similar to tomatoes. Use similar strategies.
  - Consider planting adjacent to south facing structures.
  - Consider planting through clear or red plastic (perforated)
  - Place water container nearby
  - Keep soil bare at base of plant- no mulch



# Transplanting

**Chokes need space so 3-4 feet spacing is recommended.**

**Plant so crown is 2-3 inches below ground surface. Inch or so deeper than as potted**

**Remove lower set of leaves when transplanting.**

**Mulch around base but 6-10 inches from stem.**

**Mulch can include aged manures or compost**



# Pests and Diseases

- Aphids can be an issue both on plant and flower
- Earwigs and snails are common pests
- Over watering can lead to crown rot
- Allowing leaves to be wet overnight can lead to powdery mildew.
- Remove old leaves if yellowed or laying on ground



# Over Wintering Options

After several hard frosts the plant will die back. Remove and dispose of all leaves. You can:

- **Mulch and cover – Apply 18 inches of mulch (pine needles work great). Cover with tarp or plastic (stake cover), Remove in spring**
- **Dig and store – Dig up crown and root ball. Shake off dirt. Wrap in breathable fabric with damp peat. Store in cool dark location. Replant in spring**
- **Buy seeds early – Ok may be the simplest option**

