

Growing Garlic in Tahoe –Truckee

Grow-Your-Own High Elevation Workshop

Garlic Cultivation



1. Consider treating/soaking cloves prior to planting.
2. Prepare planting area - amend soil as needed
 - a. Alliums need fertile well-drained mineral soils
 - b. Garlic enjoys some sulfur in soils
3. Plant so that the top of clove is, 2-3 inches below ground surface, slightly deeper in more frigid areas.
4. Plant 6-8 inches on center. Consider mounded rows if not in raised bed.
5. Ensure good contact between plant materials and soil.
6. Do not allow soil to dry out.
7. Consider mulching before snow (remove in spring). Especially if sprouted.
6. Side dressing of manure or fertilizers in spring.
7. Foliar amendments (Nitrogen) sometimes used.
8. Remove scapes (hardneck varieties) for larger bulbs.
9. Stop watering after 1/3 of leaves start to yellow.
10. When ½ leaves yellow and droop, rake over remaining leaves.
11. After 1-2 weeks harvest, dry and store (August).

Pre-planting Soak

- Sanitizes cloves and allows cloves to soak up fertilizer for winter
- Separate cloves and place in rubbing alcohol or peroxide for 10 minutes
- Remove from alcohol or peroxide and place cloves into fertilizer solution Use liquid fertilizer (fish emulsion/kelp/ MiracleGro) at prescribed rates. Add one teaspoon of baking soda per gallon of solution.
- Leave cloves in fertilizer solution for 30 min.-12 hrs (max 24 hours). Plant within 24 hours of removal from fertilizer solution