

STARKE AYRES STAR VEG

The selection of herbs and veggies at Starke Ayres Garden Centre is better than ever, especially with the latest range of Starke Ayres Star Veg which produce deliciously fresh crop without fail.

Starke Ayres Star Veg are plants that are grown from hybrid seed (not genetically modified seed) developed to give a superior product and better yields. They are more diseases resistant, therefore reducing the need for pesticides.

Grow these plants the natural way – lots of compost, organic fertilizers and companion plants to ensure a crop of truly superior vegetables.



Suppliers of plants, seeds,
gardening products and
services from a loyal
horticultural
team



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STARKE AYRES GARDEN CENTRE INFORMATION PAMPHLET



VEGETABLES



FOOD GARDENS

A trend for food gardening has developed with the growth of the organic movement.

People are concerned about the chemicals used on food that they eat. With the recent increases in the cost of food, more gardeners are growing their own.

The thrill of preparing a meal with food that you have invested effort and joy in is huge.

HELPFUL TIP

Avoid the common mistake of planting an entire packet of seed all at once. Sow only a few seeds and keep the rest to sow at monthly intervals.

This will ensure there is a constant supply of fresh vegetables. It is a lot of hard work growing masses of vegetables that you may then have to donate to friends and neighbours.

STARTING A VEGGIE GARDEN

- **Grow in a sunny position** where the plants will receive at least 4-6 hours of sun per day
- **The garden size** can be small – a little patch of 1m x 2m will feed a family of four if small quantities of various varieties are planted.
- **Soil** must be well-composted & well-drained
- **Water** deeply & frequently in summer but less often in winter
- **Mulch** retains water & suppresses weeds
- **Plan the positions** of each plant so that taller varieties don't overshadow smaller plants and deprive them of sunlight
- **Plant** in rows or incorporate them into your flower beds (a border of veg looks great)
- **Rotate crops** to decrease the likelihood of disease. Plant a root veg, followed by a legume & finally a leafy veg i.e. carrots/beetroot then beans/peas then lettuce/rocket
- **Organic fertilizer** should be used regularly (Starke Ayres 3:1:5 Organic, Talborne Organic, Bounce Back)
- **Allow enough room** for growth & remember that some plants grow well together and some don't (see Companion Planting)

COMPANION PLANTING

Planting different crops/plants near each other provides specific benefits, assuming the plants assist each other in nutrient uptake, pest control, pollination and overall enhanced productivity.

Many plants have natural substances in their roots, flowers or leaves that repel or attract insects. They are also able to enhance or inhibit the growth of plants situated nearby.

When used together with their organic gardening methods, companion planting can eradicate pests and diseases as well as making a marked difference in the soil.

Good combinations

Leek & celery
Lettuce & carrots
Sage & cabbage
Parsley & tomato
Beans & potatoes

Bad combinations

Beans & garlic
Mint & parsley
Sunflower & squash
Fennel & tomatoes
or beans

For more information & combinations for Companion Planting visit www.starkeayresgc.co.za

Contact Starke Ayres Garden Centre for any further questions.