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Growing strawberries indoors pollination

Caren White is a Master Gardener and Instructor at Home Gardeners School. He has been involved in Rutgers Gardens for over a decade. PixabayMaasis are versatile, easy to grow berry. They grow well in containers, gardens, edges of plants or even hanging baskets. Just make sure they have full sun (6-8 hours a day), well drained, slightly acidic soil and plenty of water. What are strawberries? Strawberries (Fragaria × ananassa) are short-lived perennial plants of fruit. They should be replaced every three to four years to keep their garden produce. For best results, know which strawberry you are planting. There are three types: June camp strawberries are the largest berries. They produce them once a year in late spring/early summer. They also send out runners that make up new plants. Everbearer strawberries produce three crops of smaller berries a year in spring, summer and autumn. They don't send runners out. Day neutral strawberries produce smaller berries throughout the growing season and send out fewer runners than June carriers. How to prepare your soil plant strawberriesBefore you plant, there are a few steps to ensure ideal growing conditions and a good harvest of your plants. Strawberries need well drained soil. They don't grow clay soil. You need to add sand or compost to allow the soil to drain. It is also useful to plant your strawberries in the mountains such as your cucurbits or raised beds. Strawberries do well in containers as long as they have drain holes. Strawberries also need fertile soil. To give your plants their best start, dig some 10-10-10 fertilizer from your soil 6-10 inches deep before the plant. When they are finished with the fruit-bearing substances, you must fertilize again to replenish the soil. Strawberries grown on raised bedsPixabayHow plant StrawberriesMasons are cold hard plants. You can start planting them as soon as the soil starts to warm up in spring. If you look closely at your plants, you will see that they have roots, then the crown from which the leaves grow. If you plant, make sure that the crown is right on the surface of the soil. When it's buried in the soil, the plants rot. The crown must be in light and air. On the other hand, make sure that the roots are completely covered with soil. Exposure to light and air kills them. Plant your strawberries at least 18 inches. You may want to plant them even further apart if you are planning to allow them to send runners to form daughter plants. Proper crop rotation saves a lot of headaches. Do not plant strawberries where peppers, tomatoes, aubergines or potatoes have been grown before. These vegetables can harbor verticium cravings, a fungal disease that is deadly in strawberries. Strawberries can be grown in a container if there is drainage Commons Always water your plants with roots to avoid any mushrooms in the soil splashing up onto the leaves. Drip irrigation is best. If you water the hose, use a watering wand to guide the water to the roots. At least give one inch of water a week to your plants. Once the plants have stopped producing the berries, give them another dose of fertilizer. Water fertilizer well to ensure that it reaches the roots where it is most needed. In addition to fertilizer, cut the foliage off about 4 inches long. In late autumn, when temperatures constantly fall below freezing, cover your plants with a completely thick 3-4 inch layer of mulch to prevent winter damage. Be sure to remove mulch in spring to allow your plants access to air and sunlight. Then you can apply fresh mulch around the plants. How to harvest StrawberriesIf you want a great harvest, you have to wait two years. In the first year, you should pinch out all the flowers and runners. This allows your plants to focus their energy on growing a larger root system and a lot of foliage, which supports more numerous and larger strawberries in the second year. In the second year, your plants will bear fruit that is ready for harvest 4-6 weeks after the flower. When harvesting the berries, they gently cut from the plants, leaving each fruit with a small piece of stem like a pumpkin. Like pumpkins, if you don't leave the stem, the berry will rot. Be sure to cut your berries away from the plants. Don't try to pull them out of plants. It emphasizes plants and may harm them. You want strong healthy plants that will continue to fruition this year and in the coming years. Always leave a piece of stem attached to the berry when you catch. Wikimedia CommonsCommon Strawberry PestsBirds love strawberries as much as we do. A flock of robins or other berry-eating birds can denude their plants in just a few hours. To protect your crop, cover your plants with a grid or row covers as soon as they start to develop the fruit. If you see small round holes in your developing berries, you have a slug or snail problem. Slugs and snails live in mulch, which you carefully put down to keep the stuffed on the ground and keep the moisture in the soil. The best solution is to temporarily pull mulch away from the plants until all the berries are ripened and harvested. You can also handpick slugs and snails or trap them. Another good way to avoid slugs and snails eating your berries is to use black plastic. Put the plastic over the hill or raised the bed to completely cover the soil. Make holes where to plant your strawberry plants. There are several advantages to using black plastic other than denying pests places to hide. This prevents umbo growing, keeps water in the soil and spring, heats the soil so that your get a head start during the growth period in spring. Q&A: Why are some strawberries soft? Answer: Soft berries are usually too ripe. Choose berries that are red and company.© 2016 Caren WhiteCommentsCaren White (author) on December 28, 2016: Thank you, teach! Birds have a real problem with the strawberry patch.teaches12345 on December 28, 2016: I grew strawberries when I lived in the Midwest. I didn't notice the holes in them and in their post I think it was these birds. A great guide to growing this wonderful tree. Sendungen 10.1.: Neue Staffell This site is not available in your country's conservatories and window sills are good sites for growing vegetables. Put heavy containers on the floor or on to secure support. Some plant plants, including post-species, are suitable for growing hanging baskets equipped with inseparable dripping bases. Mushrooms are easy if you have room in a dark cabinet. Some plants such as chicory and rhubarb may be forced to produce their crop earlier than usual. Tomatoes, peppers and eggplant: These easily raised tender crops are favorites on a sunny windowsill and can be grown with seed or small plantlets. For window boxes or hanging baskets, select pendent varieties such as Tumbler tomatoes. Train cordon varieties such as Sweet Million tomatoes to cane or string conservatory, where they produce long fermid delicious, decorative tomatoes for several months. Peppers and aubergines are less fertile. Basil is one of the easiest herbs to grow indoors, provided you can give it enough light. As with many other herbs, basil is a true sun lover – give it four hours of light every day and it will develop. With another basil not exceptionally well under lights, too, and with a regular compact fluorescent bulb, you can grow enough basil to keep your kitchen stored all year round. Spruce / Leticia Almeida Spruce / Leticia Almeida Light: At least four hours full of sun. If you use fluorescent bulbs, keep them for 12 hours with lights about 2-4 away from the plant. Do not let the leaves touch the onions to prevent burning. Water: Keep regularly moist. Water at the first sign of wilting. Fog regularly. Temperature: Warm (about 70 F). Soil: Loose, well drained planting mixture. Fertilizer: During the growing season use weak liquid fertilizer for the week. The basil starts easily from the seed (also under lights) so you can test all the different types. Most basil varieties germinate for about 5 days to 80 F. Lower temperatures increase germination time. Most people eat their basil before they can re-stock it! If you grow from seed, step into four pots in two weeks, which is likely to be its final home. Trim after the newly repotted plant is created to encourage more leaves. Basil responds well to pruning, but does not expect that house plants to get quite like There are dozens of types of basil, including lemon basil, Thai basil, purple, and many others. Typical basil is Genovese basil, which has bright green leaves and small white flowers. Basil is a uniquely rewarding plant to grow. It is relatively pest and disease-free, and it is aromatic and delicious. Basil reacts well with pruning and topping, so feel free to use the leaves as soon as the plant is created and branched out. Basil taste changes throughout your life, becomes stronger as a plant of flowers. If you see flower buds forming (about 75 days after planting), cut them off and prolong the vegetative phase of the plant. The basil that has bloomed can still be eaten, but it's bitter. A favorite fruit in almost every culture and kitchen, strawberries are beloved for their sweet, juicy taste and plump red look. And while many people cook with them (and eat them) regularly, few have actually considered growing them themselves. The good news: it's relatively easy and cheap to grow strawberries from seed. Plants, native to North America, are actually not as fussy as where they grow, as long as you can meet your basic needs. Keep in mind that growing strawberries from seed is a process – depending on your location and the length of your growing season, it is possible that your plants will not bear the actual fruit until next year. Still, with proper care and patience, you finally benefited from knowing that you tended to have delicious berries in your beginning. Because strawberries are perennial, the plants come back every year. So taking the time to give them a good start is absolutely worth it in the long run. Bareroot strawberries can be planted at any time. But when you start strawberries seed, you want to keep them indoors early in spring to help them along until the last cold is over. Simply press the seeds into a moist planting environment in the seed base tissue and leave for several weeks to germinate. One of the great benefits of growing strawberries from seed is you can plant several different varieties of your choice as they can grow in your climate. But the drawback is you probably won't have a good harvest of fruit a year after planting. This is definitely a case where good things come to those who are waiting. Spruce/K. Dave Strawberry plants can go almost anywhere. From indoor potted plants to outdoor patches and interplanted areas that require rednecks, strawberries are not fussy. They also don't grow very deep roots. So if you can find a spot container of any or set part of the garden, you probably can put strawberries there. Some plantings are as follows. ContainersHanging pots Raised in garden beds Most strawberry plant varieties make the most of the sun, so ensure that your growing location gets at least six to eight hours of direct sun per day. make sure you have chosen varieties that are durable in your area, and check their maintenance requirements, since not all varieties can be interned in the same growing conditions. Strawberries can be everbearers, which means they give fruit to harvest throughout the season. Or they may have been fertile in the summer, with one big harvest. To encourage the best growth of your plants, provide a well drain of soil fed organic compost or fertilizer. Also, adding a layer of mulch around your plants will help block the stuffy that would compete with your strawberries. Pull stuffy as soon as you notice them, and prune off the yellowish or browning leaves of strawberry plants. It helps the plant get as much moisture and nutrients from healthy leaves and fruits as possible, giving you a better harvest. Many gardeners pinch out the first flowers of their strawberry plants to help guide early growth into fluffy leaves. The ripe strawberry plant is likely to be no more than 6-12 inches high. Strawberries are best planted about 12 inches apart, and if you use containers, some plants in the pot are many. In addition, be sure to feed your plants compost or compost tea after planting and harvesting, as well as in autumn. You can significantly cut back on plants at the end of the season to encourage new growth next spring. Spruce / K. Dave As soon as the strawberries turn red (or white, if it's the variety that you have), you can harvest them. If they've gone a little too long and are soft and shy, they'll still be great for jams and other cooked-fruit recipes. And if the birds beat you to the prey, consider seding birds over your plants. By tending strawberries carefully each season, you should be able to get several years of life out of your plants. Spruce / K. Dave Dave

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