planting sets

- Plant as soon as the ground can be worked early in the spring and harvest in the fall when the tops turn yellow and fall over. Make sure the ground temp doesn’t fall below 20 degrees F.

- Select a location with full sun

- For sets or transplants, plant the smaller sets 1 inch deep, with 4 to 5 inches between each plant and in rows 12 to 18 inches apart.

- When planting onion sets, don’t bury them more than one inch under the soil; if more than the bottom third of the bulb is underground, bulb growth can be restricted.

onion sets

shallots

- Plant individually in fall, four to six weeks prior to the first freeze. Shallot sets may also be planted in the spring two weeks before the last frost.

- Plant the shallot sets 6 to 8 inches apart and 1 inch deep.

- If temps in your region drop below 0 F, cover the fall planted shallots after the first freeze with 6 inches of hay or straw.

seed potatoes

- It is best to plant seed potatoes after the chance of hard frost has past, but while you are still experiencing light frosts.

- Potatoes thrive in an area with full sun

- Plant the seed potatoes about 2 to 3 inches deep and about 24 inches apart. Light frost may kill any new growth above the soil line once they sprout, but do not panic. This will not kill the potato plant and the potatoes will regrow their foliage quickly.

asparagus

- Asparagus thrives in any area having winter ground freezes or dry seasons.

- It can tolerate some shade, but full sun produces more vigorous plants and helps minimize disease. Asparagus does best in lighter soils that warm up quickly in spring and drain well; standing water will quickly rot the roots.

- To plant asparagus crowns, dig trenches 12 inches wide and 6 inches deep (8 inches in sandy soil). Place the crowns in the trenches 1.5 to 2 feet apart; top them with 2 to 3 inches of soil. Two weeks later, add another inch or two of soil. Continue adding soil periodically until the soil is slightly mounded above the surface level to allow for settling.