

Chioggia (Dolce di Chioggia)

BEEET *Beta vulgaris*

Beet *Beta vulgaris*

Colorful root and nutritious green. Each "seed" is a berry with several seeds, so expect to thin.

Culture: Provide fertile, well drained soil, pH 6.5–7.0. Raise the pH with lime as necessary. Direct sow successions once the soil reaches 50°F and continue until hot weather. Resume in September until 4 weeks before first frost. Thin to 6 plants per ft. for fresh beets, 3 per ft. for large storage beets. Use the thinnings for baby greens.

Harvest: Beets are most tender at under 2 in., some varieties stay tender larger. Beets survive mild freezing; harvest and store before the first hard freeze. Hot weather may cause the roots to toughen, so harvest before the summer heat.

Seed Savers: To save seeds for home planting, isolate from chard and other beets by at least ¼ mile. The biennial plants flower in spring after surviving the winter.

Soil
Temp.
50–85°F

Sowing
Depth
½"

Final Plant
Spacing
2–4"

Final Row
Spacing
12–18"

Light
Full Sun

Days to
Emerge
5–10

