Carrot *Daucus carota*

Carrots need well-drained soil free of rocks, loosened 8–10 in. deep (12 in. for long types.) For clay soils, add organic matter, loosen the soil well, and choose blocky types.

**Culture:** Direct sow, covering with very fine soil, beginning 4 weeks before last frost. Sow successions until hot weather. Direct sow again August through 4 weeks before first frost. Carrots germinate slowly; sow a radish every 6 in. to mark the row and prevent crusting. Sow extra seed and thin after emergence. Provide even moisture, weed shallowly and apply mulch.

**Harvest:** Carrots are ready 65–75 days after sowing, earlier if you like younger roots. Store somewhere cool, moist, and well ventilated. Carrots maturing in cool weather have the sweetest roots.

**Seed Savers:** For home planting, isolate by at least 330 ft. from Queen Anne’s Lace and other carrots. Biennial: flowers the following spring.