

Henderson

LIMA BEAN (BUSH) *Phaseolus lunatus*

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Bush beans produce 1–2 heavy harvests per planting, ideal for canning or freezing.

Culture: Beans need well-drained soil with pH over 6.0. Excess nitrogen may cause poor yields. Sow directly in the garden beginning after last frost. Thin to 4 in. apart. Sow successions every 3 weeks through late summer. To ensure good growth, “pepper” the seeds with inoculant before sowing.

Harvest: For fresh green shelling limas, pick the filled out green pods before they begin to yellow and dry. For soup beans, harvest dry beans once the pods turn yellow and limp. Finish drying indoors.

Seed Savers: To save seeds for home planting, isolate from other lima beans by at least 25 ft.

Soil
Temp.
70–85°F

Sowing
Depth
1"

Final Plant
Spacing
4–6"

Final Row
Spacing
18–24"

Light
Full Sun

Days to
Emerge
6–10

