

Violet's Multicolored Butterbean

LIMA BEAN (POLE) *Phaseolus lunatus*

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Pole beans produce all season if kept well picked. Provide a fence or trellis to support the tall vines.

Culture: Beans need well-drained soil with pH over 6.0. Excess nitrogen may cause poor yields. Sow 6 seeds per foot, directly in the garden beginning after last frost. Thin to final spacing. Alternatively, sow 3–4 pole beans in a cluster and provide tee-peed poles for support, every 3–4 ft. 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.
65–85°F

Sowing
Depth
1"

Final Plant
Spacing
4–6"

Final Row
Spacing
36–72"

Light
Full Sun

Days to
Emerge
7–10

