

Delicious 51 MUSKMELON *Cucumis melo*

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Sweet flavor develops in the last two weeks before the melons are fully ripe, so pay attention to the maturity date for each variety.

Culture: Direct sow when soil has reached 70°F and all danger of frost has passed. (Or, carefully transplant 2-3 week old seedlings grown indoors in pots – not flats. Avoid overwatering seeds. Harden off 2-3 days before transplanting out, and handle gently to avoid damaging the tender roots.) Provide rich, well-drained soil with plenty of organic matter and even moisture. Raise the pH over 7.0 with ashes or lime as necessary. May also be grown as 2 plants per hill, 6 ft. apart.

Harvest: When ripe, most varieties slip from the vine in response to thumb pressure at the base of the stem. Ripe melons develop a sweet fragrance.

Seed Savers: To save seeds for home planting, isolate from other melons by at least 1/8 mile.

Soil
Temp.
70–95°F

Sowing
Depth
1/2–1"

Final Plant
Spacing
12–18"

Final Row
Spacing
60–72"

Light
Full Sun

Days to
Emerge
6–8

