

Ruby Red (Rhubarb Chard)

SWISS CHARD *Beta vulgaris*

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Swiss chard provides plentiful, tender cut-and-come-again greens throughout spring, summer, and fall. Ideal crop for over-wintering in mild climates or with protection from cold. Each "seed" is a berry with several seeds, so expect to thin plantings.

Culture: Direct sow from early to late spring, and again in fall if necessary. The plants can withstand light frosts; protect through mild winters with deep mulch or row cover. Spring plantings often last through summer. Pick off blister beetles (wear gloves!), or pull out the plants and sow again in fall. (For baby greens, thin to 3–6 in.)

Harvest: Snip off leaves near the base.

Seed Savers: To save seeds for home planting, isolate from beets and other chard 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
6–16"

Final Row
Spacing
18–24"

Light
Full Sun or
Part Shade

Days to
Emerge
7–10

