

QUICK REFERENCE PLANTING GUIDE

LIGHT/SUN EXPOSURE	Full sun to part shade.
USDA HARDINESS ZONES	Not winter hardy. Will thrive from spring to fall in all zones.
PLANT TYPE	Annual/Tropical.
PLANTING DISTANCE IN-GROUND	At least 24 inches apart.
CONTAINER SIZE	One plant per 12-inch or larger container.
MATURE HEIGHT / SPREAD	<p>3-N-1 Pepper: 18 to 24 inches tall with a similar spread.</p> <p>Candy Cane Red: 18 to 24 inches tall with a 12 to 18 inch spread.</p> <p>Escamillo: 30 inches tall with a 24 inch spread.</p>
BLOOM TIME	Spring to summer.
TIME TO REACH MATURITY	3 months.
FACTS OF NOTE	<p>Great for cooking or eating fresh.</p> <p>Compact, attractive plants.</p> <p>Ripens early in the season.</p>



Thank you for your order.

Your satisfaction is of primary concern to us. Please use the following resources for questions regarding your order:

- www.CottageFarmsDirect.com
- [CottageFarmsDirect.com/Planting Guides](http://CottageFarmsDirect.com/Planting%20Guides)
- CottageFarmsDirect.com/FAQ
- Help@CottageFarmsDirect.com
- [facebook.com/CottageFarms](https://www.facebook.com/CottageFarms)
- [@CottageFarms](https://www.instagram.com/CottageFarms)
- [888-593-3644](tel:888-593-3644)
- [9960 Padgett Switch Rd.
Irvington, Alabama 36544](https://www.google.com/maps/place/9960+Padgett+Switch+Rd,+Irvington,+Alabama+36544)

Cottage Farms' Guarantee

We aren't happy if you aren't happy. Cottage Farms warrants its perennials for 1 year and annuals for 90 days from the time of the shipment. If for any reason you are dissatisfied, Cottage Farms will replace your plant with a similar or comparable one at no charge. If your replacement is not available or it is too late in the season to ship, it will ship the following shipping season.

Caution: Do not assume any plant is safe to eat. Only parts of plants expressly grown to be eaten should be considered edible. As with any product that is not food, care should be taken to make sure that small children and pets do not ingest any part of a plant that is not expressly grown to be eaten.

Unless specifically stated, this product is intended for ornamental horticultural use only and is not intended for consumption or ingestion by humans or pets. Most plants are harmless but some contain toxic substances which can cause adverse health effects. Furthermore, some individuals and some animals are sensitive or allergic to certain plants and precautions should be taken to limit or avoid physical contact with particular plants. Some plants have thorns or spines that can be painful if handled.

**In case of ingestion contact a poison control center immediately.
1-800-222-1222**



*Image on cover is representative of the type of plant(s) in this offer and not necessarily indicative of actual size or color for the included variety.

OUT OF THE BOX

PEPPER

Your plant has been shipped to you in a pot. Please remove the plant from the packaging right away and plant it as soon as possible following the planting instructions below. If it is not possible to plant right away, follow these important steps:

1. Roll the plastic down around the plant and place it in a sunny location.
2. Keep the plant well watered.

Note: Some leaves may appear wilted or yellow upon arrival. This is due to the stress of shipping and is nothing to worry about. Water the plant and let it recover for few days, then gently remove any foliage that does not recover to allow for new growth.



PLANTING INSTRUCTIONS

Important: Thoroughly hydrate the plant by submersing the root zone in a container of water for 10 minutes while you prepare for planting.

1. Remove and discard the clear plastic bag from around the pot.
2. After watering, remove the pot by holding the plant upside down in one hand and squeezing the sides of the pot with the other.
3. Prepare the root ball for planting by gently disturbing the surface roots with your fingers, fork, or gardening tool and pruning any damaged roots. This will encourage the roots to begin growing outward into the new soil.
4. Dig a hole twice as deep and twice as wide as the plant's root ball. Partially backfill the hole with soil and place the plant into the hole. The top of the root ball should be level with the ground surrounding the hole. Refill the hole with soil, firming the soil around the plant with your fingers. Check to be sure the plant is not planted too deeply. If it is, raise the plant carefully and re-firm the soil.
5. Water thoroughly.

SOIL PREPARATION

We recommend having your soil tested periodically by your local County Extension Office (www.nifa.usda.gov/extension or by calling 1-800-333-4636). A soil test can determine if your soil needs any amendments to enhance the growth and performance of your plants.

Ideal garden soil is easy to dig in and drains well while still holding the nutrients and water vital to plant growth. To prepare a bed for in-ground planting, spade or till the soil to a depth of roughly 12-18 inches. Next, spread a 2-4 inch layer of organic matter such as compost, shredded leaves or peat moss over the soil and mix well.

CONTINUING CARE

Adequate and consistent watering is essential for your plants. Infrequent, long soakings of water that thoroughly saturate the soil are more effective than frequent, light applications of water.

Due to variable geographical and environmental conditions, a specific watering schedule is difficult to define. However, as a rule of thumb, you should not allow the soil or the original root ball to completely dry out. You may need to water as often as every few days during periods of drought or extreme summer heat. To determine if your plant needs water, dig a few inches into the soil next to the plant. If the soil is dry 2-3 inches below the surface, it is time to water.

Overwatering can be as damaging as under watering. Be sure that the area surrounding your plant has adequate drainage to move water away from the plant. If you choose to plant in a container, always select one with drainage holes to prevent your plant's roots from sitting in water.

To maximize the growth and performance of your plants, feed them once every 2-3 weeks during the growing season with a water-soluble fertilizer for fruits and vegetables.

CONTINUING CARE (Continued)

MULCHING	Apply a 2-4 inch layer of shredded bark, compost, leaves, straw or other organic matter around your plants to promote moisture retention, maintain even soil temperatures and discourage weed growth. Replenish the mulch as needed.
WEEDING	Keep the area around your plants free of weeds. Weeds compete with surrounding plants for food, water and light. Walk around the garden periodically and pull weeds, including the roots, as soon as you see them.
HARVESTING	Peppers are ready to pick when they have changed from green to yellow, red, or orange. Harvest by using a knife or pruning shears to make a clean cut, as pulling the peppers from the plant can break or damage the stems. Fresh peppers can be stored in the refrigerator for up to 10 days and are delicious whether cooked or eaten raw. Do not consume any other part of the plant.
WINTERIZING	Peppers are tender annuals that cannot tolerate any frost or freezing temperatures. In the event of a late spring frost, protect young plants by covering them overnight with a sheet, frost blanket, or an inverted bucket or box. Remove any material used to cover the plants the following morning. Plants in containers should be moved into a protected area on exceptionally cold nights. Discard the plants when they have finished fruiting at the end of the season.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Do peppers have any nutritional value?

Yes. Peppers are low in calories, but high in potassium, vitamin A and vitamin C.

Where should I plant my pepper?

Peppers may be planted in-ground or in containers. Always select a sunny, well-drained planting site with soil rich in organic matter. If you choose to plant in a container, be sure to select one with drainage holes so water can flow freely through the soil and drain out of the bottom of the pot.