erougiacong.ie



PEAS

When to Grow?

Sow: Mid March - mid April Harvest: Mid June - late July

Sow: Mid April - mid May Harvest: Mid July - mid September

Germination: 10 - 28 days

Where to Grow?

Prepare a growing bed in an open site. Dig the soil in Autumn adding a large amount of high quality compost. Peas need a high humus content and good soil structure.

Autumn application of compost results in less nutrient leaching than from manures and slurries due to the slow-release forms of many of the nutrients in composts. Time your compost applications so that increased nutrient availability meets the nutrient requirements of your crop rotation programme.

How to Grow?

Start off in greenhouse until approximately 5-6 inches tall and harden off. Plant out approximately 7 inches apart with wire mesh guards or other growing/bamboo sticks for support.

Compost

Compost contains plant nutrients and organic matter. These ingredients have beneficial effects on the following crop when applied to soil. Compost contains slow release nitrogen, phosphate and sulphur. It contains readily available potash that can provide all the crop's needs plus smaller but useful amounts of magnesium, calcium and trace elements (zinc, copper, manganese & boron).

For crops with sensitive seeds, as with manures or NPK fertilisers, it is advisable to mix the compost with the soil at least two weeks prior to sowing in case the germination of affected by any temporary raised salt content of the soil.

① Top Tips

- Protect with netting or other cover to deter birds.
- Control weeds.
- Avoid cold or wet soil.
- Pick regularly at harvest time or yield will be effected.
- A solution of water and crushed garlic, ratio 10:1 with one liquidized clove can deter slugs and prevent 'damping off' of young shoots caused by fungus.