

# Pole Bean

*Phaseolus vulgaris*



## General Information

- Edible plant
- Sun Exposure: Full sun
- Water needs: Moderate
- Temperature: Does best in warmer temperatures. Soil should be at least 60 °F before planting.
- When to harvest: Harvest 60 to 70 days after planting. Once fully matured, harvest every 3-4 days.
- Harvest season: Summer

## Planting Guide

- Planting Season: Mid-spring. The beans need warmer temperatures to grow.
- Location: Somewhere with full sun. Make sure soil is well-draining.
- Spacing: Poles should be at least 18 inches apart.
- Soil and Fertilizer: None!
- How to plant: Plant seeds in holes 1 inch deep. You can set up 4 or so bean plants per pole, so space each of these seeds 3 inches apart around the pole.

## Care Guide

- Irrigation: Pole beans need a decent amount of water to thrive. At least 1 inch is sufficient. Make sure the soil never dries out too much.
- Support: As the name suggests, pole beans will require some support. Poles should be at least 6 feet long, as vines can grow up to 10 feet in length. Bury the pole in the center of seed groups, enough that it is relatively stable.
- Pests: Aphids, beetles and cutworms are some common pests. One strategy to fight them is to till the soil before planting in spring. This will destroy any overwintering pests. Otherwise, washing off the pests manually can help avoid bean damage.

- Disease: Most problems can be avoided by employing crop rotation to limit spread of diseases among same-family crops. Additionally, there are several bean varieties today that are resistant to diseases that traditionally plague the bean plant.