

Strawberry Information

Information Provided By Fall Creek Farm & Nursery

Planting

In the home garden strawberries make an excellent ground cover. No soil preparation is necessary if the flowerbed is mulched (bark dust or saw dust for example), and has good drainage. Simply dig the plant in, leaving the crown exposed at ground level, never plant strawberries to a depth where the crown is buried. Avoid wadding the roots in the planting hole.

Fertilizing

Wait for growth to start to avoid burning the roots. A balanced blend of Nitrogen, Phosphorus, Potassium and Sulfur is recommended. The same fertilizer that works in your vegetable garden will give excellent results on strawberries.

Types of Strawberries

Everbearing Varieties

After planting keep all flowers picked off until June 1-15. This establishes a strong plant. Plants will flower and fruit the rest of the summer and fall until a frost occurs. The original mother plants should be rouged out after the 1st or 2nd year. Treat them like an annual.

Spring Crop Varieties

Fertilize and water well the first year to promote good flower bud formation that Fall. The first crop is picked the following spring. After harvest the plants go dormant prior to summer and fall growth and fruit set. After the last berry is picked mow the plants off with a lawn mower set just above the crowns at the soil surface. The old leaves left after harvest are going to die anyway and mowing is good sanitation and helps keep fruit rot at a minimum as the planting ages. In the fall, thin runners so they are 3" – 5" apart. If possible mow tops off in January or February prior to the spring flush of growth.