



GROWING YOUR GARLIC



Common Name: **GARLIC**

Botanical Name: *Allium sativum* **Family Name:** Amaryllidaceae

Plant Type: Bulb **Size:** 30cm H x 5 – 7.5cm W

Planting Width: 5 – 10cm. **Positioning:** Full Sun to Semi Shade.

General Information: Garlic is a valuable and tasty source of Vitamins A, B1, B2 & C. It is a useful medicinal food, with proven anti bacterial and anti fungal properties, and is also a wonderful companion plant for roses and fruit trees as it will repel pests such as aphids and white fly. **Planting Time:** Autumn in warmer climates, winter in cool climates. Break Garlic bulb into cloves. Plant cloves about 5 cm deep with the pointy end up. The tops of the cloves should be just below the soil surface. Harvest in Summer once the tops are mainly brown. Ease bulbs out of the soil gently with a fork, taking care not to bruise the bulbs. Let bulbs dry out to prevent rotting and store whole in a cool dry place. **Soil:** Well drained friable soil is essential, if soil is too heavy, bulbs will be poorly shaped. **Watering:** Regular watering is essential for optimum bulb production. Stop watering once the tops start browning.

Fertilising: Dig compost or well aged manure into the soil prior to planting. Apply a fertiliser such as Blood and Bone or Dynamic Lifter at planting and again after flowering.

Tips: Garlic can be used to make a natural garden pest repellent by mixing finely chopped garlic with grated soap and water. Strain and spray in a hand sprayer. Young shoots can be eaten or used as a garnish.