

WATER



Once the seed has sprouted, the root will already be 1 inch or longer so keeping the top of the soil moist is not so important.

Chilli Plants hate being overwatered. A sign of this is yellowing leaves. Chilli plants can cope much better with underwatering and they will let you know when they need more water by drooping leaves.

Give the first inch of soil a chance to dry out before watering more. Water in the morning or evening when it's cooler to avoid scorching leaves.

SUPERHOT PEPPERS



Superhot Peppers can take as long as 4-6 weeks to germinate, the higher the temperature the quicker they will germinate.

Other varieties like Capsicum Annuum varieties (Jalapeno, Thai Chilli, Hungarian Hot Wax) tend to germinate quicker than Capsicum Chinense (Carolina Reaper, Bhut Jolokia, Habanero)

LIGHT



Just like any living plant, peppers need light to grow. If you are starting your plants indoors, you might need to use grow lights until they are ready to go outdoors.

If your pepper plants have been indoors (from seed) they will need to gradually transition to the natural sun before they are moved outdoors. This is called "hardening off."

Watch out for seedlings getting tall and leggy, this is due to not enough light.

SOIL & NUTRIENTS



Use a good potting soil or seed starter soil. Use perlite to help with drainage and good root growth.

Seed Starter soil generally has little or no nutrients so you will need to start adding feed to the soil once the seedling has shown its first set of leaves or earlier.



Chilli & Sweet Pepper Seed Sowing & Growing Tips



Red Dragon

WELSH CHILLI SEEDS

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CHILLI SEED GERMINATION



PLANT 3-5MM DEEP INTO SEED POTTING MIX IN A SEED TRAY OR POT.



KEEP IN A WARM, SHELTERED SPOT SUCH AS A FOAM BOX OR GREENHOUSE OR INSIDE SOMEWHERE WARM. USING A HEATED PROPAGATOR OR HEAT MAT WILL HELP GREATLY.



SOIL SHOULD BE MOIST BUT NOT WET. SO CHECK THE SOIL MOISTURE DAILY TO ENSURE CHILLI SEEDS HAVE THE RIGHT CONDITIONS TO GERMINATE FOR STRONG HEALTHY GROWTH. ONCE THE SEED HAS GERMINATED AND YOU SEE THE SEED SPROUT COMING UP IT IS BETTER TO WATER FROM BELOW AND ALLOW THE POT TO SUCK THE WATER INTO THE SOIL.

IMPORTANT NOTICE!



ONE OF THE MOST COMMON REASONS CHILLI SEEDS FAIL TO GERMINATE IS LOW AND UNSTABLE TEMPERATURES DURING THE EARLY STAGES. IT'S A FREQUENT ISSUE WE SEE.

CHILLI SEED GERMINATION DEPENDS HEAVILY ON CONSISTENT WARMTH:

- IDEAL TEMPERATURE: 28°C TO 32°C
- ACCEPTABLE RANGE: 23°C TO 25°C (DAY AND NIGHT)

UK NIGHTS ARE OFTEN TOO COLD, EVEN INDOORS—SO DON'T RELY ON A SUNNY SPOT ALONE. A HEATED PROPAGATOR IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED.



USE A HIGH-QUALITY SEED COMPOST (NOT PEAT-FREE).

WE'VE RECEIVED MANY REPORTS OF POOR RESULTS WITH JOHN INNES COMPOSTS, SO WE RECOMMEND AVOIDING THEM FOR SEED STARTING.



DO NOT PLACE YOUR PROPAGATOR ON A WINDOWSILL.

ALTHOUGH IT MAY FEEL WARM DURING THE DAY, THE COLD FROM THE GLASS AT NIGHT CAN RADIATE INTO THE PROPAGATOR AND SIGNIFICANTLY LOWER THE TEMPERATURE, WHICH CAN PREVENT SEEDS FROM GERMINATING.

AS A GENERAL GUIDE:

- AT 30°C, SUPER-HOT VARIETIES USUALLY GERMINATE IN 7-10 DAYS
- AT 20-25°C, GERMINATION CAN TAKE 3-8 WEEKS IDEAL FOR MILDER TYPES LIKE JALAPEÑOS, SWEET PEPPERS ETC. THESE SHOULD APPEAR IN 7-12 DAYS)
- BELOW 20°C, GERMINATION MAY FAIL ENTIRELY OR BE SPORADIC

AVOID LETTING THE GERMINATION TEMPERATURE DROP SIGNIFICANTLY AT NIGHT – CONSISTENT WARMTH IS CRUCIAL FOR SUCCESS.

PLANTING OUT YOUR SEEDLINGS

Plant out into the garden when they are large enough to handle (usually 2 to 3 sets of leaves). Space seedlings about 25-40cm apart and plant to the depth of the plant in its pot or a little deeper for support.

If planting into pots, plant one seedling per pot, as they need space to grow and mature. In windy areas, it may be necessary to support plants with stakes.

FEEDING YOUR CHILLI PLANTS

Chilli seedlings need lots of nutrients to grow and produce a good crop. Use a decent quality balanced fertilizer like 10-10-10 NPK or something with a similar ratio. Whatever you use, it is important that you feed regularly, little, and often which is the rule here.

If you notice your plants are not growing much or look stunted, lack of nutrients could be the cause.

Invest in a TDS (Total Dissolved Solids) meter, you can use the meter to get a good idea of how much fertilizer to use. You can buy the meters cheaply on Amazon.

KEEP A CONSTANT HIGH GERMINATION TEMPERATURE

DO NOT OVERWATER SEEDLINGS

COMMON PROBLEMS LEGGY SEEDLINGS

Leggy Seedlings are caused by a lack of sunlight or by light that is either too weak or indirect to meet the plant's needs. The stems grow thin because the plant is desperately reaching its leaves towards the light. Seeds that are started late winter or early spring, when the sun is still low in the sky, are prone to this type of growth pattern. During this season, the sunlight is barely strong enough to allow plants to grow at all, much less thrive.

OVERWATERING

Peppers are very susceptible to overwatering, in fact, we find that is one of the main reasons some people have trouble with pepper plants! Chilli peppers originally came from dry, Mexican climates, and they really do not like soggy feet. Often, if you overwater peppers, it can cause them to get yellow leaves, droop, stunt their growth, and have general poor health.

USE LARGE POTS

Many chilli peppers grow great in containers, you can grow peppers in any type of container if it's big enough, has well-draining soil with good drainage holes. Do not plant peppers in containers with no drainage, or they will be doomed! Super-Hot Peppers generally need at least 30 litre pots for successful growing.

KEEP A CONSTANT HIGH GERMINATION TEMPERATURE