

Propagation

UNIVERSITY OF
Nebraska
Lincoln EXTENSION

Know how. Know **now.**



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Starting Your Own Transplants

- Planning
 - Starting date
 - Amounts
 - Varieties
- Allows for season extension
- Long Term—reduced transplant cost
- Plant hard to come by varieties



Planting

- **Planting container**
- **Planting media**
- **Planting the seed**



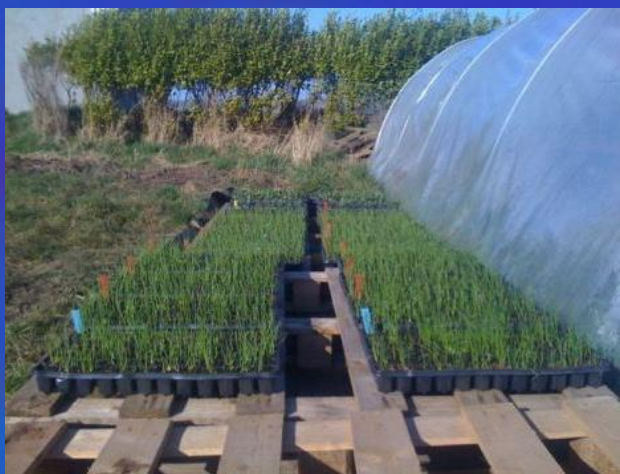
Lighting

- **Florescent—Low requirements**
- **Metal Halide---High requirements**
- **Sodium---High Requirements**
- **LED---Low requirements**



Hardening Off

- Harden off gradually, so that seedlings become accustomed to strong sunlight, cool nights and less-frequent watering over a 7-10 day period
- On a mild day, start with 2-3 hours of sun in a sheltered location
- Protect seedlings from strong sun, wind, hard rain and cool temperatures
- Increase exposure to sunlight a few additional hours at a time and gradually reduce frequency of watering, but do not allow seedlings to wilt. Avoid fertilizing
- Keep an eye on the weather and listen to the low temperature prediction. If temperatures below the crop's minimum are forecast, bring the plants indoors or cover it with a blanket or other insulation
- Know the relative hardiness of various crops. Onions and brassicas are hardy and can take temperatures in the 40's. After they are well hardened off, light frosts won't hurt them. Warm-season crops such as eggplants, melons and cukes prefer warm nights, at least 60° F. They can't stand below-freezing temperatures, even after hardening off
- Gradually increase exposure to cold



Seed Testing

- **Count out a number of seeds**
- **Fold-up in a dampened paper towel**
- **Seal in a sealable bag**
- **Place in a warm area**



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