Crookneck Squash

Cucurbita pepo var. torticollia



Crookneck Squash fruit
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 24 inches

Spread: 3 feet

Spacing: 3 feet

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Description:

A beautiful early maturing, high yielding and vigorous bush type variety; produces bright yellow crookneck squashes; mild flavor, texture and color, perfect for raw eating in salads, grilled, roasted or stuffed; harvest at 2" for minis, or mature at 6"

Edible Qualities

Crookneck Squash is an annual vegetable plant that is typically grown for its edible qualities. The entire above-ground parts of the plant are edible, and can be harvested at any time in the season. The edible parts have a pleasant taste and a soft texture.

The plant is most often used in the following ways:

- Fresh Eating
- Cooking
- Baking
- Freezing

Planting & Growing

Crookneck Squash will grow to be about 24 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 3 feet. When planted in rows, individual plants should be spaced approximately 3 feet apart. This vegetable plant is an annual, which means that it will grow for one season in your garden and then die after producing a crop.

This plant is typically grown in a designated vegetable garden. It should only be grown in full sunlight. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in rich soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone over the growing season to conserve soil moisture. This species is not originally from North America, and it is considered by many to be an heirloom plant..

Crookneck Squash is a good choice for the vegetable garden, but it is also well-suited for use in outdoor pots and containers. With its upright habit of growth, it is best suited for use as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the center of the pot, surrounded by smaller plants and those that spill over the edges. It is even sizeable enough that it can be grown alone in a suitable container. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.