

## Edible Gardening Series with Sarah Bostick and Carol Wyatt-Evens UF/IFAS Extension Sarasota County

### Resources from Session 22: Tools for Gardening

#### 1. Tools for carrying things:

- 5-gallon bucket
- Wheelbarrow – if you have a big garden, a wheelbarrow might be a great investment
- Tarp – it is often easier to drag big piles of leaves or dead plants than to haul them in buckets. Pile your tarp up and start dragging.

#### 2. Tools for cutting things:

- Scissors
- Pruning shears or snips

#### 3. Tools for measuring things:

- Twine – one of the most useful tools in a garden! Great for making straight lines. Handy tip: use a permanent marker to mark off one-inch increments on a long piece of twine. You can also tie a knot every 6 inches and use your piece of twine as a planting guide. Just tie each end of your twine onto a stick. Put each end of the stick in the ground and voila! You have a straight line.
- Measuring spoons – very handy for measuring fertilizer
- Measuring tape or yardstick

#### 4. Tools for planting

- Trowel or hori-hori – many hori-horis have inch measurements imprinted on their blade so you can know how deep you are digging
- Water-tight container for seed storage – seeds need to be stored in a cool, dry environment. A tight-fitting plastic container kept in a cool spot or even in your freezer works great.
- Trellising material – many edible plants benefit from being trellised. Installing a trellis at the same time as planting is a good idea.

#### 5. Tools for watering

- High-quality hose with adjustable nozzle – some plants need just a gentle sprinkle of water, others need a gallon or more of water each time you water. An adjustable nozzle on your hose will protect small, fragile plants and with a twist of the dial, quickly water large, mature plants.
- Watering can – a watering can with removable nozzle is ideal.

#### 6. Gardening gloves

#### 7. Knee pads

#### 8. Rolling bench for sitting

#### 9. Labels

#### 10. Pencil

#### 11. Paper for making a map

#### 12. Notebook

#### 13. Cellphone camera

#### 14. Florida gardening books and planting guides:

- *Vegetable Gardening in Florida* by James Stephens (book)
- *Organic Methods for Vegetable Gardening in Florida* by Stibolt and Contreras (book)
- University of Florida online planting guides. Find the whole list here:  
<https://gardeningolutions.ifas.ufl.edu/care/planting/vegetable-gardens-by-season.html>
- Florida Vegetable Gardening Guide (11-page UFL publication): <https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/vh021>

- Grow to Learn School Gardening Guide (112-page UFL, downloadable publication written for school gardens but helpful for all Florida gardeners) <http://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/sarasota-docs/hortres/GrowtoLearnSchoolGardeningGuide.pdf>

**15. Pest ID app or website**

Feel free to reach out with questions any time!

**University of Florida/IFAS Extension Sarasota County**

6700 Clark Road, Sarasota, FL 34241

Office: 941-861-9900

Email: [sarasota@ifas.ufl.edu](mailto:sarasota@ifas.ufl.edu)

Web: [sarasota.ifas.ufl.edu](http://sarasota.ifas.ufl.edu) or [scgov.net](http://scgov.net)



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