

## Pea – Sugarsnap

Pisum sativum

Crispy and sweet, Sugarsnap peas can be enjoyed in their pods. This annual plant will grow in an open, sunny site with little shade. As a bush variety, the Sugarsnap plant does not require a trellis, but benefits from staking as it grows. Prepare your soil well before planting with some well rotted manure or garden compost. Take care to plant in some well drained soil, as soil that becomes waterlogged will cause basal rotting. Soil temperatures above 5 degrees are needed for germination. Add more soil to the base of the peas as they grow to support the stems. This will also help to keep the roots cool. Pruning the tips encourages the plant to branch out and helps improve your harvest. At 10-14 weeks peas are harvested for their tender immature seeds.

Recommendations:

- To easily identify your seedlings, label your stake.
- For better results, soak your seeds overnight before planting.
- Only water once when planting seed to avoid the seed rotting.
- This variety will benefit from some stakes to support it as it grows.

To save your seed:

Select the strongest and most productive plant to harvest from. Let the plant mature with pods attached. The plant will start to die and dry out. Allow the pods and plant to completely dry before harvesting the seeds. Store in a sealed container in a cool and dry place.

Remember to label your seeds with the name and date of when they were collected.