



Wasabi

Japanese Horseradish (True Wasabi):

This is the real deal, the horseradish used to make Japanese Wasabi. These are a challenge, but the rewards are well worth it. You will want to duplicate the conditions that these are grown in, in Japan, as closely as possible.

Parts of the Pacific NW and Blue Ridge Mountains have the perfect conditions for growing wasabi, as they prefer temperate and humid conditions. If you do not live in these areas, you can re-create the environment in a greenhouse, just be sure to adhere to the temperatures below, they must not fall or rise out of this range.

Wasabi seeds need a period of cold, so these are best started in the fall. You can simulate these conditions by cold stratifying in your refrigerator, for 60 days. Seeds should be soaked the night before planting and planted in flats filled with a mix of peat moss and organic compost. Thoroughly wet the soil before planting (peat moss can be stubborn to get to absorb water – place in a bucket and mix with your hands to get it to absorb. Peat moss is important, because Wasabi likes acidic soil. Cover with a fine layer of the same soil. Place the flats in a sealed plastic bag (so they don't dry out) and put them in your refrigerator.



After the cold period, place the flats outdoors and make sure that they remain moist. Wasabi needs to be grown in temperatures between 45 and 70 degrees. These temperatures must be strictly adhered to. Since it takes two years to harvest these, you may need to bring them indoors if your temperatures get too cold or too hot. Seeds normally sprout within 20 days. After the seedling are a few inches tall, transplant to their permanent location which can be in the ground or a large and deep pot. A pot may be preferred so it can be moved to locations that are more suitable.

Wasabi grows naturally under forest canopies and gets no direct sunlight. You want to ensure that the plants are well shaded with filtered light. After established, fertilize with a sulfur rich fertilizer.

Wasabi likes to be kept moist, but not muddy and waterlogged. To check whether the soil drains well enough, water the area well and watch the water soak in. If it's slow to be absorbed, work in more compost. If it drains right away, the soil is fine for wasabi.

Planting wasabi near a natural pond or stream is a good idea, since the soil will stay constantly moist, but will naturally also drain well.

You could also plant wasabi near a waterfall that will continuously splash on the plant to provide water. THIS IS A SEMI-AQUATIC PLANT. If you do not have such a water source, mist the plants daily with a hand mist sprayer to prevent wilt. Do not, however, soak them which can cause rot.

Harvest takes 24 months.

A NOTE ON SEED STORAGE IF YOU ARE NOT PLANTING RIGHT AWAY:

The key for seed storage is cool, dark and dry. If your temperatures are not quite right for planting, you can keep the seeds viable by keeping them in the food-grade plastic bag they were shipped in. The bag should then be placed in a sealed mason jar, then covered with a paper bag to block light. A basement would be an ideal storage area, or alternatively a refrigerator (this is a must for poppies), until you are ready to plant. This can be done with most all seeds and will keep them viable for 1-5 years depending on the species.

My seeds, bulbs and bare root plants are guaranteed to provide you with a decent yield. If you are dissatisfied with your order for any reason or the seeds don't sprout, please message me before leaving a review and I will provide advice, replace or refund. I truly care about my customers and my plants!

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions you may have.

Happy Planting!

Kimberly (EnchantedDreamerCo)

