



Radicchio:

Plant when temperatures are between 60 and 68 degrees. Plant in full sun. Sow the seeds in a prepared garden bed by digging down a few inches into the soil and replacing it with a mix of garden soil, organic compost or both. Organic compost is recommended. These can also be sown in a raised garden bed. Sow the seeds ¼ inch deep and 8 to 10 inches apart. The seeds will sprout in 1-2 weeks. You can allow the plants to grow as normal and harvest in 120-180 days. Cooler weather and frost bring out the best coloring.

If you are wanting truly stunning coloration, there is a method called forcing. You simply dig up the plant or plants in fall, cut off the heads, cut the roots to 12 inches long and pot it in peat moss. Then you cover the plant so it is in the dark, any pail or bucket will do and allow it to regrow at 50-60 degrees. A basement works well but if you don't have one, you can keep it outside if temperatures are in this range, just be sure to completely cover the plant so it is in complete darkness. A black pail would be good in this case. The plant will regrow in a range of light to hot pink, depending on conditions. Check on the plants periodically and harvest when they reach the desired size.

Another method is referred to as blanching, where 1-2 weeks before harvest, you tie up the leaves with the plant still in place in the ground and cover it with a pail as described above. Make sure leaves are dry when you do this. This will lighten the color and sweeten the flavor. You can always do a mixture of both of these methods to experiment. Truly a cool vegetable. Enjoy! 😊



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

