

Brussels Sprouts

Brassica oleracea var. *gemmifera* · Brassica family

DIFFICULTY Moderate–hard

TYPE Annual, seedling

MATURITY 90–120 days



SUN
Full sun



WATER
Consistent, deep



SOIL PH
6.0–7.0



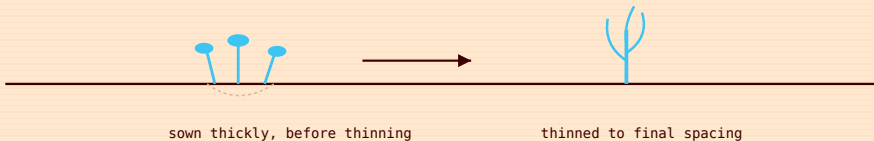
SPACING
60–75cm



DEPTH
as per seedling

01 A long, cool-season crop

Sprouts form along a tall central stem over months, maturing from the bottom up. Cold actually improves flavour — a light frost sweetens the sprouts nicely.



02 Planting

METHOD	Transplant seedlings, staked in exposed spots as they grow tall.
SOIL	Rich, firm, well-drained.
TIMING	Plant in late summer to early autumn for a winter harvest in most zones.

Planting timing varies significantly by Australian climate zone. Set your zone above (or use the Find My Climate Zone tool) for guidance tailored to your own area.

04 Problems

- **Cabbage moth** — net or hand-pick.
- **Aphids** — cluster under leaves and between sprouts; hose off.
- **Loose, open sprouts** — loose soil or too much nitrogen; firm soil well.
- **Clubroot** — rotate beds, keep pH up.

03 Growing care

- Firm soil well at planting — loose soil produces loose, open sprouts.
- Stake tall plants in windy positions.
- Remove yellowing lower leaves as the plant matures.
- Pick sprouts from the bottom up as they firm.

05 Harvest & storage

SIGNS	Sprouts are firm and tight, walnut-sized, starting from the base.
METHOD	Snap or cut sprouts individually from the bottom up.
CURING	None needed.
STORAGE	Fridge crisper, 1–2 weeks; can also stay on the stalk in cold weather.
PRESERVING	See Fermenting (sauerkraut and fermented brassicas) or Freezing Produce (blanching and freezing a glut) for ways to keep a harvest surplus.

06 Companions & rotation

PLANT NEARBY	AVOID NEARBY	ROTATION NOTE
Onion Celery Beans	Tomato Strawberry	Rotate brassicas on a 3–4 year cycle.