

milangkani kipli (Growing Food)



March-May 2017

Gardening

Every Thursday from 11am

piyura kitina (Risdon Cove) garden

Call us on 6234 0777 if you're keen to come along.

New floppy fence at piyura kitina (Risdon Cove) garden

The piyura kitina community garden now has a floppy fence around it to help keep possums and wallabies out. Possums hate climbing on branches that are unstable and shaky so the floppy top of the fence is made to be just like that. They climb up the fence like they normally would, but once they reach the top floppy part, they turn right back. The higher fence keeps wallabies from jumping over.

Damien and Peter have built the best floppy fence we've seen. Check out their work.



Peter checking out the fence at the vegie garden at UTas



Damien with the finished floppy fence at piyura kitina

What to plant at this time of year- from the Peter Cundall guide

What to plant in March:

Garlic cloves, seedlings of celery, kale, cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli, winter lettuce, silverbeet, spring and salad onion, chives, leeks

What to sow as seed in March:

turnip, spinach, broadbeans, peas, Asian leaf and root vegies, spring and salad onions, lettuce

What to plant in April:

Garlic cloves, salad and spring onions, late leeks, winter lettuce, silverbeet, mini cauliflower, broccoli, potatoes

What to sow as seed in April:

Spinach, spring and salad onions, Japanese turnip, broadbeans, Asian cabbages and root crops

What to plant in May:

Broccoli, early potatoes, broadbeans, garlic, spring and salad onions, Japanese turnip, winter lettuce

What to sow as seed in May:

Broadbeans, spinach, Asian greens and root crops, spring and salad onions, shallots, chives

Growing our own kipli



“I love to grow and share my vegies. It brings me a lot of joy. I never expected the size of these pumpkins to be so big. I only put vegie scraps in the raised garden and then I got these. I cut them up and shared them.”
Lesley Crook



“One of my favourite things in the world is growing our own produce at home. At the moment we are harvesting the vegetables, fruits and herbs that we planted in spring. Sunni, my boy, loves to help out in the garden. We grow lots of tomatoes, garlic and basil. This year we also grew rockmelons and they were so sweet.”
Adam Thompson

Like to share photos of your garden? Give us a call on 6234 0713.

Planting garlic

It's the time of year to plant garlic. Garlic is easy to grow and will be ready just before Christmas when the tops start to turn brown.

Prepare your soil by digging and loosening it up and adding compost. You might need to add some dolomite lime as garlic hates acidic soil. Choose garlic that has been grown locally, like the purple garlic available. Separate the cloves out. Each clove of garlic will grow into a full garlic bulb.



Make a hole and put the clove in pointy end up.



Push clove into ground up to your second knuckle. The bottom of each clove should be about 3cm deep.



Lightly press the soil down to cover garlic



Maturing garlic growing

Tips for this time of year

Sulphate of potash can make plants stronger and can increase flowering and fruiting. Add it once a year in autumn or spring.

The best fertiliser is good quality, well-made home compost. Blood and bone or organic manure in pellets like Dynamic Lifter can be used if necessary.

Make sure the water you use gets down deep to the roots. This will mean you can water less often and it will give you healthier plants.

Plant into small trenches or in lowered areas that look like craters (see picture). This give water time to sink in more deeply. Make sure the soil is well-drained. Mulch around them with hay or straw to stop the soil drying out.

Spinach loves a sweet soil, so sprinkle dolomite lime on top of the soil before you sow spinach seeds.



Damien and Rusty planting spring onions, kale and broccoli into small trenches

