

Cucumber

Cucumis sativus

QUICK FACTS

LIFECYCLE

Annual (or tender perennial)

SUNLIGHT

Full Sun

HEIGHT

2–3 ft

AT A GLANCE

Bacterial wilt, vectored by cucumber beetles, is the most serious cucumber threat in the northeastern and midwestern United States. Protection during the first 4–6 weeks after transplanting (before the 5-leaf stage) is when it matters most. Bush types work well in containers; vining types on a trellis produce more and stay cleaner. Bitter cucumbers are a heat-stress symptom, not a variety flaw.

PLANTING CHECKLIST

- Match site to sun requirements above before buying
- Test soil drainage — dig a 12" hole, fill with water, time it (should drain in 1–2 hrs)
- Dig hole 2x wider than rootball, same depth
- Backfill with native soil — do NOT amend the planting hole
- Water deeply at planting and weekly for first 3 weeks
- Mulch 2" deep, keep mulch 2" away from trunk/stems

FULL GUIDE WITH SOURCES

<https://outdoorplantcare.com/vegetables/cucumber-plant-care/>