

HOME HORTICULTURE

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MICHIGAN STATE
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Michigan
Groundwater
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Program

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Information Packet was Compiled from the Michigan State University Home Horticulture Database.

Swiss Chard

Chard is grown for its leaves, the woody roots are not edible. Seed are planted in April in well-drained loam. Plant the seed 1/2 inch deep in rows 18 to 24 inches apart. Plants are thinned to 6 to 8 inches apart. Keep the old leaves picked off to encourage new growth. Harvest leaves when they are at the desired size. Chard is not stored.

Chard Facts

Days to Maturity: 45 to 55 days

Approximate Yield/10 feet of row: 7 pounds

Per Person Requirements: Fresh: 3 to 5 plants and Preservation: 8 to 12 plants

Beet, Chard Insects

Leaf Miners

Small larvae mine the leaf causing slender, winding, light colored trails. Leaf Miners are only a problem if the leaves are to be used for greens.

Cutworms

Cutworms feed on leaves.

Flea Beetle

Flea beetle feeding causes shotholes in the leaves.

Aphids

Aphids suck out the plant's juices.