

Victory Garden 101: Vertical Gardening Notes Page

Why Grow Vertical?

- Grow vegetables that need trellising
- Improve options in small spaces.
- Improve airflow (prevent disease).
- Improve fruit quality.
- Add vertical visual elements

Traditionally Trellised Vegetables

- Pole Beans
- Some Peas
- Older varieties, usually
- Others?

Traditionally "Hill" Grown

- Cucumbers
- Squashes
- Pumpkins
- Melons

Traditionally "Assisted"

- Tomatoes

Methods of Going Vertical

- Cages
- Staking
- Teepee type trellises
- Vertical twine or metal
- A-Frame

Cages

- Bigger & Sturdier is Better
- Usually "cage and let it grow"
- Tomatoes
- Peppers
- Cucumbers?
- Beans & Peas?

Staking

- Individual Stakes
- Requires heavy pruning (single leader)
- Tomatoes
- Some cucumbers
- Others?

Stake & Weave

- Tomatoes
- Peppers

Teepee Trellises

- 3-4 main supports
- Add string, twine or mesh

Arbors

Vertical Trellises

- Metal framed
- Can be twine or metal panels

A-Frame Trellises

- Cattle Panel
- Metal fencing
- 50" x 16'
- Cost \approx \$20
- Trellis adds 48 sq. ft.!

Construction

- With bolt cutters, cut panel in half
- Secure two halves at top with strong cable ties
- Set up vertically
- Measure width at second rung
- Using table saw, cut PVC pipe to match width, saw 1 1/2" notch at each end

Panel Installation

- Place bottom sections (4-6 feet apart)
- Poke bottom wires of panels into soil
- If using side-by-side panels, secure together with cable ties

Plant Selection Criteria

- Vining habit
- Produce size/weight

Good Choices

- Cucumbers
- Pole Beans & Peas
- Cantaloupe
- Winter Squash
- Other Melons

Not So Good Choices

- Watermelon?
- Summer Squash
- Some Pumpkins

Growing Tips

- Support maturing fruits
- Train growing vines through panels

Questions?

- For More Information:
 - Master Gardener Hotline
 - sgemghotline@gmail.com - preferred
 - 316-660-0190
 - M-F, 9-12 and 1-4
 - Walk-In Clinic (not right now, but eventually)
 - Extension E-Newsletter
 - Text: EXTENSION to 42828
 - Horticulture Information Center:
 - <http://hnr.k-state.edu/extension/info-center/>
- Social Media
 - Facebook Page: <http://facebook.com/sedgwickextension>
 - Instagram: @ksresedgwickco
 - The Demo Garden blog: <http://thedemogarden.org>

References & Resources for Additional Learning

Find Your Local Extension Office & Resources:

Kansas: <https://www.ksre.k-state.edu/about/stateandareamaps.html>

Other States: Do an internet search for “*your state* extension” or “*your county* extension.” It is usually affiliated with the land grant university in your state.

Horticulture Information Center: <https://hnr.k-state.edu/extension/info-center/>

Kansas Mesonet Soil Temperature Map: <http://mesonet.k-state.edu/agriculture/soiltemp/>

Kansas Garden Guide: <https://bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/pubs/s51.pdf>

Vegetable Garden Planting Guide: <https://bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/pubs/mf315.pdf>

Recommended Vegetable Varieties: <https://bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/pubs/L41.pdf>

Fact Sheets:

<https://extension.umn.edu/planting-and-growing-guides/trellises-and-cages>

Stake & Weave Tomatoes: <https://njaes.rutgers.edu/FS1102/>

Videos:

Growing Vegetables Vertically: <https://kansashealthyyards.org/all-videos/video/growing-vegetables-vertically>

Maximizing Your Garden Space: <https://kansashealthyyards.org/all-videos/video/maximizing-your-garden-space>

Stake & Weave Tomatoes: <https://youtu.be/oj2uZ9K-DCM>