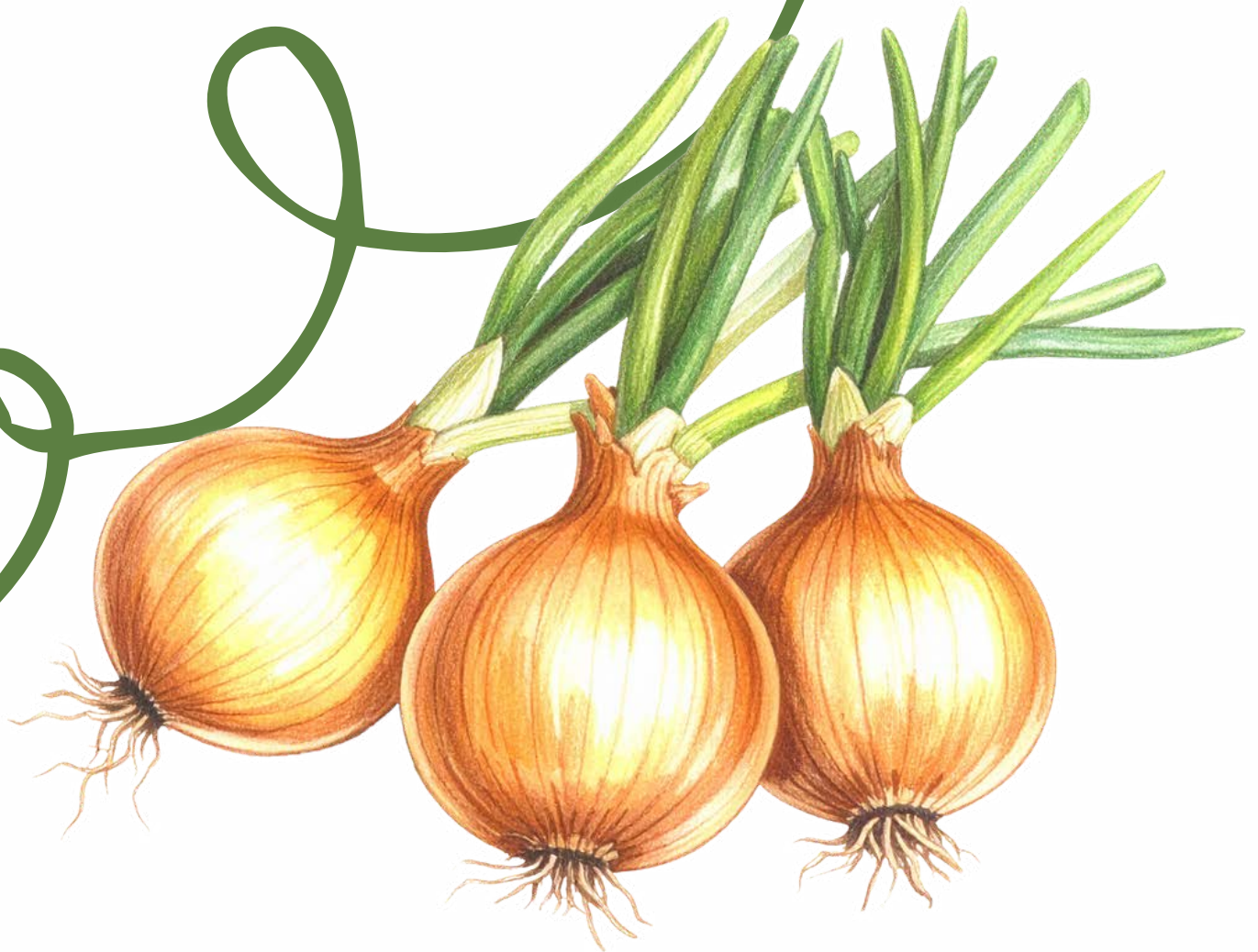


Onion Basics

The First Step to a
Ton of Onions



Quick-start tips for a
happy little onion patch

Onion Planting & Growing

Onions are space-savvy superstars. You don't need a field — just a little know-how and clever planting!

What you'll need:

- Onion sets or transplants (sets are easiest for beginners)
- Loose, well-draining soil
- A sunny spot (6+ hours is a must!)
- Raised beds, grow bags, or containers work great



Hot Tip:

Choose the right type for your area:
Short-day onions for the South (bulbs form with 10-12 hours of sun)
Long-day onions for the North (need 14-16 hours of sun)
Intermediate-day onions for in-between zones



Spacing is Everything



Let's talk tight quarters!
Grid planting is your new best friend.

Forget rows – plant in a tight 6" grid (yes, just 6 inches apart each way). That's 4x more onions in the same space!

How it works:

Each onion only needs room to bulb out – they don't mind cozy neighbors

Use a dibber (or a sharpie!) to poke holes for even spacing

Plant the set just deep enough to cover the top
– don't bury them too deep!



Nice and close
together!

Water, Feed, and Pamper

Happy onions = **juicy bulbs**.

Water:

- Consistent moisture is key — about 1" per week
- Mulch helps lock in moisture and block weeds



Feeding:

Onions are heavy feeders
(they're hungry!)

Feed every 2-3 weeks with
compost tea, fish emulsion, or
balanced organic fertilizer



Pro Tip:

When tops get tall and green, it means your bulbs are fattening up. Keep the growth going!

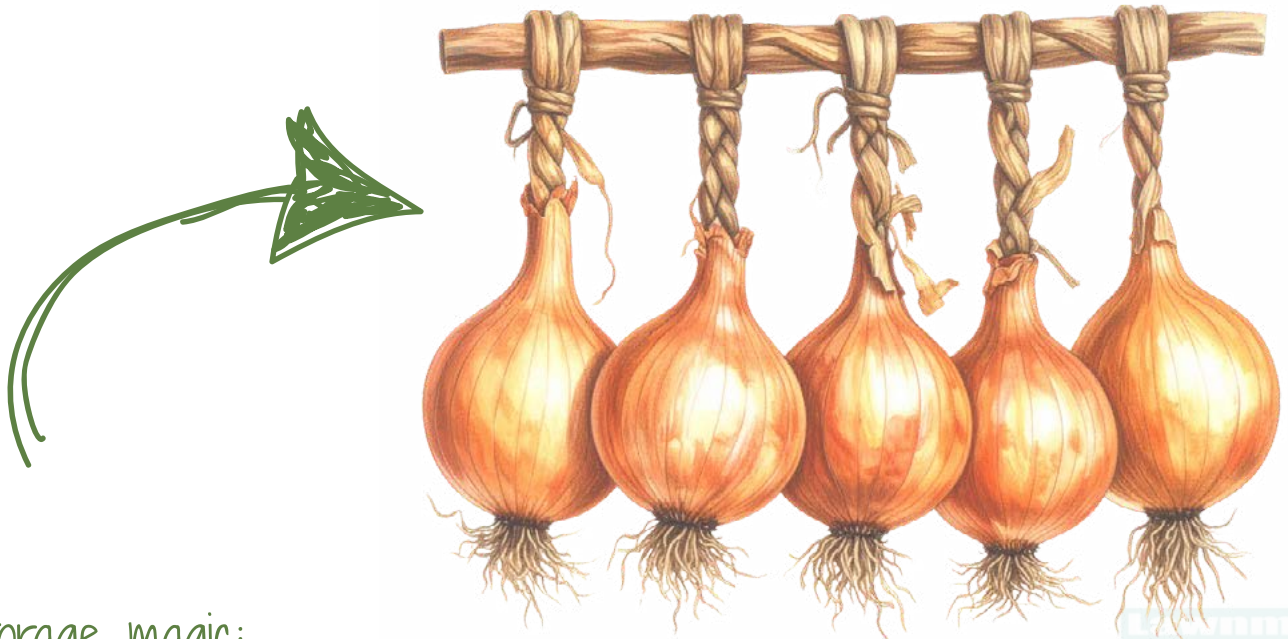


Harvest Time + Storage Smarts

You made it! It's bulb party time.

When to harvest:

- Tops will flop over and begin to yellow = your cue!
- Gently loosen soil and pull them out
- Let them cure in a dry, breezy place for 2-3 weeks



Storage magic:

- Store cured bulbs in mesh bags, hanging plaits or baskets in a cool, dry space
- Sweet onions don't store long – eat those first!
- Pungent varieties last months if kept right

Bonus Tips from My Garden Notes

Plant early!

Onions love a head start. Plant in early spring (or fall in the South).

Green onions = double harvest.

Snip some tops young for scallions, let the rest bulb up!

Companion plant like a boss.

Onions deter pests for beets, carrots, lettuce, and strawberries.

Don't break their necks!

Let onion tops fall naturally. No squishing or snapping to rush harvest.

Save seeds, save \$\$!

Let one or two onions flower – pollinators will visit, and you'll get free seeds next season.



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See you in the garden!

Tara



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