ENVIROMENTAL PREFERENCES

LIGHT: sunny

SOIL: well-drained, well-worked, and free of rocks

FERTILITY: rich
pH: 5.5-7.0

TEMPERATURE: cool (60-65°F)

MOISTURE: moist, but not water logged

CULTURE

PLANTING: sow turnip seeds in early spring for summer harvest, and mid to late summer for fall harvest. Sow rutabaga seeds in June for fall harvest.

SPACING: 3-5" x 8-24"

HARDINESS: hardy biennial

FERTILIZER NEEDS: light feeder, (2 lbs. 10-20-10 per 100 square feet, work 4-6" into the soil before planting, side dress 1 lb. 10-10-10 per 25 feet of row)

CULTURAL PRACTICES: Hot dry weather and low fertility levels cause turnips and rutabagas to be small, hot and woody. Balanced soil fertility and water levels are important for quality crops. Turnip roots will split when a heavy rain follows a dry period.

Rutabagas have a slower growth rate than turnips, have a firmer flesh and will store longer. They also do not become pithy if they over mature as turnips do.

COMMON PROBLEMS

DISEASES: Club root

INSECTS: Cabbage root maggot

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NUTRITIONAL VALUE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grams</th>
<th>Calories</th>
<th>% U.S. RDA</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Vitamin A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>170</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Vitamin C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>155</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

HARVESTING AND STORAGE

DAYS TO MATURITY: Rutabaga 80-100 days
Turnip 30-60 days

HARVEST: The quality of turnips and rutabaga roots is best when they are medium size (turnips 2-3", rutabagas 3-5"). Roots can also be harvested when 1-2" in diameter. The roots will stand frost, but should be dug before ground freezes. A heavy straw mulch will extend harvest through early winter.

APPROXIMATE YIELDS: (per 10 feet of row) 8-12 lbs.

AMOUNT TO RAISE PER PERSON: 5-10 lbs.

STORAGE: cool (32°F) moist (95% RH) conditions, 2-4 months

PRESERVATION: freezing, rutabagas can be dipped in wax and stored

Prepared by: D. Relf, B. Adler, and A. McDaniel.