

rewarded the second year with a much healthier and more abundant crop.

To maintain your June bearers (this does not apply to ever bearers) after the crop has been harvested, it is important to cut the foliage back 2 inches above the crown and remove all the extra debris. This is called “renovation” and it will help with next year’s yield as well as disease resistance.

In mid to late July, trim off all but 2-3 runners from each mother plant. A helpful rule is to remove all runners that have not rooted by the 1st of September. Fertilize with a balanced organic fertilizer such as **Down To Earth’s Rose and Flower 4-8-4**, or **Acid Mix 4-3-6** in late summer to encourage fall growth.

EVER BEARING - CARE

With ever bearing varieties, it is important to remove only the first flush of flowers, allowing for root establishment. After July 1st, you can leave all new flowers to mature into fruit.

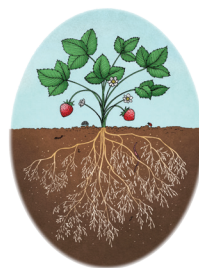
As with June-bearers, it is a good idea to trim off all but 2-3 runners in mid- to late-July. Again, it is a helpful rule to trim off any runners that have not rooted by September 1st. Fertilize ever bearers in small amounts throughout the growing season with a balanced organic fertilizer, such as **Down To Earth’s Acid Mix 4-3-6**.

KEEP IN MIND

- Strawberries are shallow rooted, and like plenty of water-especially their first year.
- Cover with floating row cover if the temperature dips below freezing to avoid any flower damage.
- Keep strawberries weeded.
- Gather more strawberry growing tips and information from your favorite gardening books, and online.

Down To Earth Distributors
Home Grown since 1977
Eugene, Oregon

STRAWBERRIES



We all love strawberries! Strawberries are easy to grow, and they are high in Vitamin C and antioxidants. The two main types include June bearing and ever bearing. June bearers produce one high yielding crop per year, early in the summer. This one large crop makes them ideal for canning and freezing.

The second main type are the ever bearing varieties. Ever bearers basically produce two crops each year; the first in late June/early July, and the second in the early fall. Day neutrals are considered ever bearers, and they will produce early July through the fall. Ever bearers are ideal for summer-long snacking.

SOIL PREPARATION & PLANTING

Strawberries will be happiest and sweetest in a full sun location with fertile, well draining soil. Adding compost to the area before planting is recommended to encourage good drainage and moisture retention, and to boost the available nutrients.

For good drainage, we also suggest planting in a raised bed to help the plants stay free of any root rot problems (10-12 inches high is great). Space the plants 12-18 inches apart. Plant with the roots straight down, with the middle of the crown set level with the top of the soil (avoid covering the crown). Top dress with an organic fertilizer two weeks after planting to help the roots get established (**Down to Earth’s Rose & Flower 4-8-4 or Acid Mix 4-3-6** is perfect for this).

Mulching your strawberries is an effective practice to help with weed control and moisture retention. Many weeds will compete for nutrients and water, thus making it a good idea to keep your strawberry area weed free.

JUNE BEARING - CARE

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