

PAPERPOT GROWERS NOTES • PAPERPOT TRANSPLANTER

Snap peas

Soaked peas broadcast into 2" chains, transplanted at 10 days and trellised: two rows a bed, four weeks of picking.

CHAIN POT

2"

IN-ROW

2"

ROWS / 30"

BED

2

TRAYS / BED

4

TOP PLATE

None
(broadcast)

SEEDS / CELL

About 3

Bed preparation

- Broadfork the bed to aerate and loosen the soil.
- Smooth and shape the bed with a bed prep rake, removing any debris.
- If the previous crop was fertilized, peas will do fine without reapplying. If not, either layer on 1" of compost (enough to mostly cover the native soil) or sprinkle on alfalfa meal and pelleted chicken manure.
- Peas like fresh compost. If the last crop got compost, use alfalfa meal and pelleted chicken manure instead.
- If you layer compost, don't tilth it in, so surface weed seed stays smothered. If you add amendments, tilth the top 1-2" to mix them in.
- Irrigate for 10 to 14 days* to germinate weed seed in the top layer of soil, then flame weed once the weed cotyledons are up.

Seeding

- Soak the peas in a bucket of water for 8-24 hours, then rinse well (a big colander helps).
- Set a germination tray with 2" paper chain pots and fill with potting mix.
- Spread 400 g of soaked peas (200 g dry) evenly over the tray, about 3 seeds per cell.
- Water and germinate at 75°F. Peas come up in about 3 days.
- Keep trays on greenhouse benches until 10 days old.

CROP DATA

Cultivars	Sugar Snap
Seed / bed	800 g dry
Germination	3 days at 75°F
Days to transplant	10 days
Days to maturity	60 days
Harvest window	28 days
Days in field	78 days
Harvest unit	Pound
Yield / bed	60 lb

Transplanting

- Transplant when seedlings are 3-5" tall. If roots have matted under the tray, shave them off on the transplanter ramp.
- Water the trays thoroughly before heading to the field.
- Plant two rows of peas with the Paperpot Transplanter: 15" between rows, 7.5" from the outer rows to the bed edge.
- New to the transplanter? See the [how-to guide and videos](#).

Irrigation

- Peas do best on two lines of drip. Keeping pods and leaves dry helps avoid disease.

Cultivation & trellising

- 14-18 days after transplanting, cultivate with a collinear hoe and side-dress with alfalfa meal or blood meal.
- Once the peas pass 10", mulch with straw.
- Drive a 7' T-post between the rows every 10'. Put a 1.25" PVC tee on each post and run 1/2" EMT through them as a top rail, then hang trellis netting from it.
- Run tomato twine along the front of the plants so they don't flop forward.

Harvest

- Pick every other day once pods are about as thick as your little finger, working from the bottom of the plant up.
- Pinch the pod between two fingers and snap above the cap with your thumb.

Packing

- Don't wash peas. If they get wet, leave the bins open in the cooler for a couple of hours.
- Store at 35-40°F and sell within 4 days.

SUGGESTED TOOLS

Seeding	Bucket for soaking, measuring cup, Paperpot germination trays, paper chain pots
Transplanting	Paperpot Transplanter
Aeration	Broadfork
Tilthing	Tilther, power harrow or precision depth roller
Bed shaping	Bed prep rake
Weed control	Flame weeder
Cultivation	Collinear hoe or stirrup hoe
Trellis	7' T-posts, 1/2" EMT top rail, trellis netting

*All timing varies with your climate, soil and season. Bed figures are for a 100' x 30" bed. Days in field = days to maturity + harvest window - days to transplant.

MORE PAPERPOT GUIDES

Transplanter how-to, Kwik Klik Slide instructions, skip spacing and tech sheets are free at paperpot.co. Paperpot tools and paper chain pots: shop.moderngrower.co