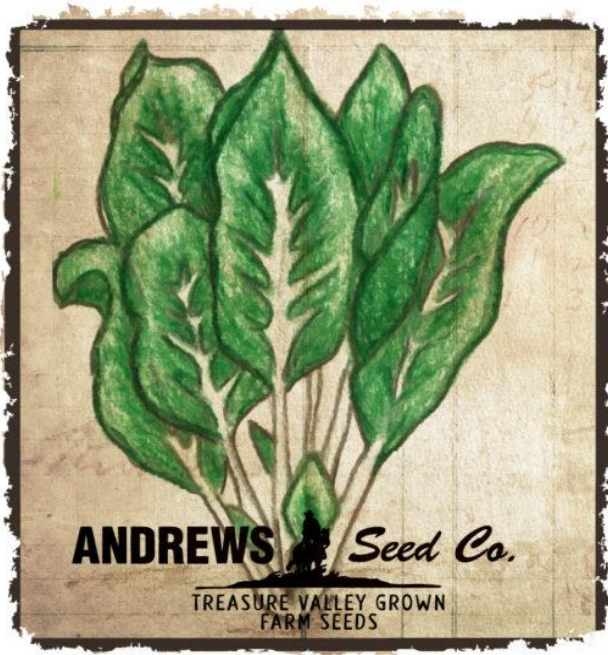


FORDHOOK GIANT

Swiss Chard

Large, glossy, dark green, deeply crumpled leaves with broad white petioles (leafstalks).



NOTES

VARIETY INFO

Botanical Name: *Beta vulgaris subsp. Vulgaris*

Plant Dimensions: Up to 24" tall

Days to Maturity: 50–60

Zone: 3-10

SOWING INFO

Sow Outside: RECOMMENDED. 2 to 4 weeks before your average last frost date, and when soil temperature is at least 40°F, ideally 75°–90°F. Sow as late as 2 months before first fall frost. Mild Climates: Sow in fall.

Start Inside: 4 to 6 weeks before transplanting out, 2 to 4 weeks before your average last frost date (protect from heavy freezes).

Days to Emerge: 5–10 days

Seed Depth: ½"

Seed Spacing: A group of 2–3 seeds every 6"–8"

Row Spacing: 18"

Thinning: When ½" tall, thin to 1 every 8"

GROWING INFO

Harvesting: Pick up to 1/3 of the outer leaves as needed, and let more leaves grow from the center of the plant; or, if desired, harvest the whole plant 2" above ground, and it will grow back. Pick very young leaves, at 2"-4" for using fresh in salads.