

Intro to Flower Farming with Flourish Flower Farm

Plant Spacing for 4' Wide Beds

- 6" spacing = 7 rows/bed
 - ◆ Planted tightly to encourage stem length
 - 9" spacing = 5 rows/bed
 - ◆ most commonly used on our farm
 - 12" spacing = 4 rows/bed
 - ◆ Bulky/branching plants like bells of ireland, dianthus, sunflowers + celosia
 - 18" spacing = 2-3 rows/bed
 - ◆ Good for vines and dahlias
-

Cut & Come Again Varieties

- Basil
- Zinnia
- Cosmos
- Poppies
- Gomphrena
- Queen Annes Lace
- Snapdragons
- Bachelor buttons

One Hit Wonder Varieties

- Bupleurum
 - Sunflowers
 - Dill
 - Stock
 - Celosia
 - Tulips
-

Resources

- Flower Farm Blogs
- Books (see Flourish blog post)
- Growing for Market publication
- ASCFG membership
- Floral design workshops

Helpful Tools

- Drip Irrigation
- Landscape fabric + sod staples
- Buckets
- Bouquet sleeves + rubber bands
- Clippers
- Flower food
- Butter knife
- Garden stakes
- Tenax netting

Favorite Sources for Seeds, Bulbs + Plugs

- Geo Seed
 - Johnny's Selected Seed
 - Renee's Garden
 - Fred C Gloeckner & Co
 - Farmer Bailey
 - Candler Feed & Seed
 - Dutch Grown
-

Vase Life + Stage of Harvest

- Clean buckets + vases
- Clean, sharp clippers
- Harvest during the coolest part of the day
- Harvest at the proper stage
- Remove bottom leaves to minimize bacteria
- Store in a cooler away from fruit + veggies
- Let "rest" before arranging to hydrate
- Use flower food
- Sales outlet determines your stage of harvest
- Multi-petaled flower: harvest when 1/3 of the flowers are open on a stem
- Single bloom: passes the wiggle test or when the flower is 50% open
- Cracking bud stage
- Take notes + run vase life tests in your home with various stages of harvest

