



Selection and Preparation of Containers, Preparation of the Growing Medium and Land Preparation

Identification and Selection of Appropriate Containers for Planting Crops

Some Guidelines when choosing your container are:

- Choose containers that are easy and safe to handle
 - Edges should be smooth
 - Replace containers before they deteriorate
 - Use stable containers. They should rest securely on their base
- Choose containers that are easy to clean
- Make sure your container is durable so they do not fall apart when you try to move them
- Use containers of made with suitable materials
 - Corrosion e.g. metal containers corrode because of water and fertilizers
 - Weight e.g. wood becomes heavy when wet and eventually rot
 - Cost e.g. concrete may initially be expensive but it will last longer.
 - Heat e.g. black containers and bags cause heat to build up
- Only use containers that had Non- toxic materials in them or which contained edible materials. E.g. Food grade containers.

- Ensure Containers are the suitable size for the crop.
 - 10cm- shallow rooted crops e.g. Lettuce
 - 45cm- Deep rooted crops e.g. Melongene
 - 19 liter/5 gallon-bulky crops e.g. Legumes
- Ensure containers have adequate drainage
 - Porous container e.g. clay pots (cooler)
 - Non- Porous e.g. plastic pots (less watering)
 - Drainage e.g. plastic containers need adequate drainage holes as they are not porous

Video - Selection and Preparation of Containers

<https://www.facebook.com/103936031246037/videos/vb.103936031246037/898393213953008/?type=2&theater>

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