

RECOMMENDED ISOLATION DISTANCES

Solanaceae- Capsicum- Sweet, Chili and Hot Peppers- 500 feet.

Lycopersicon- Tomatoes- Debatable; Most are self-pollinated, but cross pollination can result from insect visitation.

Lycopersicon Pimpinellifolium- Currant tomato- Same as above.

Physalis Ixocarpa- Tomatilla- Same as above.

Solanum Melongena- Eggplant- Self-pollinated- recommend 50 feet.

Solanum tuberosum- Potato- Usually grown from tubers, seed pods are sometimes formed and can be collected.

Umbelliferae- Apium graveolens- Celery/Celeriac- Biennial-All will cross with each other- isolate, bag or cage.

Anethum graveolens- Dill- Time plantings of different varieties so that only one is blooming at a time.

Coriandrum sativium- Coriander/Cilantro- If different strains are grown, ½ mile isolation, or timed plantings.

Daucus Carota- Carrot- ½ mile is recommended; will cross with wild carrot (Queen Anne's Lace). Biennial, will require winter storage and replanting to produce seed. Can be hand-pollinated, or caged for purity.

Foeniculum vulgare- Fennel- ½ mile isolation, hand-pollination, or caging.

Petroselinum crispum- Parsley- 1 mile isolation, hand-pollination or caging.

Zea Mays-Corn- 2 miles, or hand pollination

Ocimum Basilicum- Basil- 150 feet from other varieties, or caging.

Abelmoschus esculentus-Okra- Self-pollinated, 1 mile isolation recommended.

Allium Family-Onions, multiplying onions- 1 mile.

Brassicacae-Oleracea- Kale, Cabbage, Broccoli, Cauliflower, Collards, Brussels Sprouts, Kohlrabi-1 mile, most will cross-pollinate and are biennial. Caging is recommended.

Rapa- Chinese Cabbage, Mustards, Broccoli Raab, Turnips- 1 mile, caging recommended.

Sativus- Radish- ½ mile between varieties, or caging.

Beets-5 miles, Swiss Chard- 2-5 miles, Lamb's Quarters-5 miles, Spinach- 5-10 miles.

Sunflower- 1/2 -3 miles

Lettuce-12 to 25 feet minimum (will cross with wild lettuce).

Cucurbitacae-Cucumis melo- Muskmelon, cantaloupe, honeydew, plum granny- ½ mile.

Citrullus vulgaris- Watermelon- ½ mile.

Cucumis sativus- Cucumber (except Armenian, burr and African horned) ½ mile.

Curcubita maxima, mixta, moschata, and pepo- ½ mile by variety. *
Some sources state that species will not cross, others state that some will on occasion.
Hand-pollination, or isolation is highly recommended when growing different species.

Leguminosae- Peanut-1 mile

Garden Pea- (includes shell, Snow and Sugar) normally self-pollinating,
European standards require 100 meter isolation.

Soybean, Lentil, Runner Beans, Cowpea/Crowder/Field Pea, and
Common Bean (Wax, Green, Pole, ½ Runner, bush, etc.) are all considered to be self-
pollinating. Opinions vary as to isolation distances; some plant them in the same rows,
some isolate by a paths width, some more. I usually give them as much distance as I can
in my garden, planting them in different beds throughout the garden. Bumblebees
sometime chew through the blossoms, causing cross-pollination. Distance helps to
prevent this somewhat.

Lima/Butterbean-While these are also considered to be self-pollinating,
they produce sweet smelling flowers in abundance, drawing insects which can cause
cross-pollination. John Coykendall, a specialist who grows many limas in association
with Clemson University, recommended to me a few years back that limas/butterbeans be
isolated by at least 5 miles. For this reason (since my garden is not that big) I only grow
one variety per year.

The distances recommended here are from the book, SEED TO SEED, by Suzanne
Ashworth, and reflect isolation distances for commercial growers. Hand pollination,
caging, timed plantings and selected plantings can all be used to reduce these distances.