



Goji Planting Guide

About Goji

Known to some as Chinese Wolfberry, Goji is a woody, perennial shrub that produces bright red berries in the summer and fall. Much lauded as a "superfruit" in recent years, Goji has been used medicinally in China for centuries. Extra sweet and super nutritious, Goji berry plants produce a valuable harvest you can freeze, dry, juice and of course, eat raw like a blueberry or cranberry. With its purple flowers, attractive foliage and bright berries, Goji berry plants make a wonderful addition to your perennial garden.

When to Plant

Start Goji indoors 6-8 weeks before the last frost of the season. It is usually inefficient to start Goji outdoors, as healthy seedlings are a must and therefore a greater control over the germinating process is vital. If started outdoors, Goji can be sown into the garden after the threat of frost has passed.

Where to Plant

Plant Goji in soils that are moist, well draining, slightly alkaline, and relatively nutrient-poor. Goji is very sensitive to fertilizers and will easily suffer if too much is applied, so areas that are in need of such amendments are not recommended. Goji can tolerate partial sun (4-6 hours of sun per day) but full sun (6-8 hours of sun per day) is necessary for proper fruiting. Once established, matured Goji plants become more tolerant to drought and cold temperatures, but dislike both.

How to Plant

Plant 3-4 Goji seeds together in moist soils buried approximately 1/4" deep. Be sure to keep the soil moist throughout the germination process and give the seeds exposure to strong light. Seedlings can be transplanted into the garden when started indoors once they develop their 3rd true leaves. Be sure to harden off seedlings to avoid transplant shock. As Goji plants grow, thin out weaker plants until they are 3-4' apart. Larger plants can also be trellised in order to make harvesting easier.

Caring for Goji

Goji plants take 2-3 years before they start producing berries. Pick ripened berries when they are bright red and have a sweet taste. Berries should detach freely by hand if they are ready. Eat fresh berries within a couple weeks of planting or dry them in order to store them for up to a year.