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## **GROWING ASPARAGUS**

The taste of home grown asparagus is sensational when freshly picked from your garden.

Planting and growing asparagus is a long-term commitment.

Asparagus that's given a good start and some basic care will be capable of producing for fifteen years or more.

Start by improving your soil by digging the area over with *Zoo Gro or Cow Manure*.

Cultivate a long bed to at least a spade's depth.

Dig a planting trench that's goes almost to the bottom of your pre-prepared bed and place a mound of soil along the center.

Place and spread each asparagus crown over its own little mound of soil, and cover lightly with soil.

Continue to fill in the trench as the shoots grow, but never cover the tip of the asparagus.

When the trench is full, mulch with a thick layer of *Zoo Gro* or *Cow Manure*.

The asparagus that we enjoy so much is actually the new emergent shoots.

Generally a bed of asparagus takes up to three years to produce and can then last for up to 15 years.

Your initial harvest will be the second season after planting, generally during October and November.

In the second half of the growing season always let some fronds develop to store goodness in the plant.

Asparagus dies down completely in winter, but it will unfailingly re-appear each spring.

Remove and compost the dead ferns in autumn and feed in late winter or early spring with *Plants Plus*Organic Fertiliser and renew the layer of mulch each year.

