PLANTING AND CARING FOR SQUASH
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- There are 2 types of squash—winter squash and summer squash. Winter squash has longer days to harvest.

1. Plant ALL squash AFTER all danger of frost—May 15th or later. Either start seeds inside earlier and then transplant or buy starters from nursery. All squash hate cold weather. They are warm season crops.

2. IMPROVE SOIL—Amend soil in each hole before putting plants or seeds in. Add lots of compost, yum-yum mix, a little mushroom compost, or composted horse or chicken manure. Mix up with soil.

3. When planting seeds, plant seed point side down. If planting starter, then plant at same level as it was in container.

4. For vining type of squash—When seed sprouts and you see first true leaf, the vine will run in the opposite direction.

5. Make well around each squash so water stays close to root zone. Add straw all around bottom of well. This will help keep the water from evaporating through summer.

6. Add water and THRIVE AND SEAWEED in bucket and water well.

7. Summer squash and zucchini are usually bush varieties and don’t take up as much space.
   A. Give them about 3-4 ft. square feet space per plant.

8. Winter squash are mainly vining varieties and need more room.
   a. Give them huge amount of space. Just let them grow over bed, outside garden area in aisles.

9. After plants have been transplanted FERTILIZE with FISH EMULSION and SEAWEED once a month through season. Squash are heavy feeders.

10. Try not to water from above. Water at base of plant. This will help thwart off powdery mildew. Use ‘Neem’ or baking soda solution to help keep powdery mildew away.

11. Look for squash bugs and squash vine borers—main insect problems.
   a. Put foil around base of vine to first leaves to foil (no pun intended) squash vine borers.
   b. Plant onions and put onion tops around all squash to ward off squash bugs. I also use ‘Neem’ to help keep squash bugs away. Hand pick squash bugs early on and put in bucket of soapy water.