



grow flowers

FLOWER FARM SUCCESSION PLANTING GUIDE

know what to plant and when to plant it
so that you can have the right flowers
at just the right time



Hi there!

You'd think having flowers all summer long would be as simple as just throwing some seeds (or seedlings!) in the ground and letting them do their thing, right? Um, nope. #flowerfarmfail

There's nothing quite like booking a flower gig for a large event and having no flowers to show for yourself because you didn't SUCCESSION PLANT. This is when you plant flowers more than once throughout any given growing season.

Succession planting seems big and scary UNTIL you have a system in place. Then it's kinda fun. That's where this worksheet comes in.

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS

I'm giving you all the tools and tricks to getting your succession schedule down pat. By the time we're done you'll be ready to have a continuous supply of flowers all summer long!

1. Use the following pages to find and keep track of your planting dates
2. Print off the Master List and planner sheet at the end of this guide so that you'll know what to succession plant and how often
3. Plan out your season.: I'll show you the exact steps I take to easily (and quickly!) plan it all out

In the next few pages I'll list the things you need to know and show you how I use it so you can .

Here's to fields full of flowers!

Let's get planning (& planting).

Sarah



1. FIRST THINGS FIRST: KNOW YOUR DATES

TRANSPLANTING DATES

Need help finding your last frost and first freeze dates? The Farmer's Almanac has you covered

US: <http://www.almanac.com/gardening/frostdates/states>

CANADA: <http://www.almanac.com/content/frost-chart-canada>

When is your last spring frost?

When is your first fall frost?

How long is your growing season? (DAYS)

TIP: PLUG SUPPLIERS REFER TO SHIPPING DATES IN TERMS OF WHAT WEEK OF THE YEAR IT IS. I.E. APRIL 1st is WEEK 14.

What is your spring transplanting date for cool flowers? (8 weeks last spring frost)

What is your fall transplanting date for cool flowers? (8 weeks before first fall frost) This is also when you'll want to direct seed certain varieties!



1. FIRST THINGS FIRST: KNOW YOUR DATES

INITIAL SEED STARTING DATES

Soil blocked seedlings typically need to be started 4-6 weeks before you transplant them. I like to plan on 6 weeks. Plan on 8-10 weeks for seeds planted in trays or pots.

COOL FLOWER sowing date (6 wks for soil blocking, 10 wks for trays).

WARM SEASON/NON-HARDY sowing date

**TIP: SOME SEEDS OFTEN NEED LESS TIME:
SUNFLOWERS, ZINNIAS, COSMOS, AND CELOSIA ARE READY TO BE
TRANSPLANTED 2-4 WEEKS AFTER SOWING**

Fall COOL FLOWER/PERENIAL sowing date (14-16 weeks before first fall frost)

Good work! Keep these dates handy. You'll want to have them as you finish your succession schedule!



2. PLANTING FREQUENCY

How Often to Plant Each Variety

This chart lists which flowers need to be succession planted and how frequently to plant them. Keep in mind that I made this list for my zone 5 farm, you may need to adjust depending on the length of your growing season.

I sent you the spreadsheet in an email, or you can find it by clicking [here](#).

Cold Hardy Varieties

Agrostemma: plant 2 times, every 2-3 weeks
Ammi: plant 2 times, every 3-4 weeks
Bells of Ireland: plant 2 times, every 3 weeks
Bupleurum: plant 4 times, every 2 weeks
Centaurea: plant 2 times, every 3 weeks
Cerinthe: 2-3 times, every 4 weeks
Cynoglossum: 2-3 times, every 3-4 weeks
Dill: 2-3 times, every 3-4 weeks
Godetia (clarkia): 3 times, every 3 weeks
Larkspur: 3 times, every 3 weeks
Matricaria: 3 times, every 3 weeks
Nigella: 3-4 times, every 2 weeks
Poppies: 2 times, every 4 weeks
Rudbeckia: 2 times, every 4 weeks
Scabiosa: 3-4 times, every 3-4 weeks
Shiso: 3 times, every 3 weeks
Snapdragon: 3 times, every 3 weeks
Statice: 3 times, every 3 weeks
Stock: plant 3 times, every 2 weeks
Sweet Peas: plant 2 times, every 3 weeks

Tender Annuals

Ageratum: plant 2 times, every 4 weeks
Amaranthus: plant 3-5 times, every 3 weeks
Basil: plant 3 times, every 3-4 weeks
Celosia: plant 3-4 times, every 2-4 weeks
Cosmos: 3 times, every 3-4 weeks
Euphorbia: plant 2 times, every 3-4 weeks
Gomphrena: 2-3 times, every 3-4 weeks
Marigold: 2-3 times, every 3 weeks
Millet: weekly
Sunflowers: weekly
Zinnias: plant 3-4 times, every 3 weeks

Fall Planting

This is when you'll want to plant perennials and some of the hardier annuals and biennials for the following spring: achillea, delphinium, rudbeckia, etc.



3. PLAN IT OUT

Schedule Your Succession Plantings

You guys, this is my favorite part! This method makes it a piece of cake!

Start out by printing the planner page. I'll walk you through what it looks like to schedule all of your cool flowers and then you can go through and finish all of your planning in no time flat.

I like to start a separate sheet for the tender annuals.

1. Start with your Cool Flower seed STARTING date in column 1, refer back to section 1 of this guide to find it. Go through and write the dates for each following week in the rest of the columns.
2. Write the names of the cool flowers you are planting in the rows. It helps to keep them in alphabetical order.
3. Use the list on Page 5 to reference how many times you are going to plant a certain flower. Then count off the boxes to find the additional planting dates.

Let's take Ammi for example. The first date I am going to plant Ammi seeds is also my cool flower seed starting date, Feb. 17th. Then I check the chart and see that I want to start seeds a total of four times in four week intervals. I use the boxes to count it out and I get the dates: Feb 17, March 17, April 14, and May 12.

Go through the whole chart and fill out all of the dates and varieties you're planting. Then all you need to do is look at the chart each week and you'll know just what to do. No need to give it a second thought!

3. PLAN IT OUT

Schedule Your Succession Plantings

You guys, this is my favorite part! This method makes it a piece of cake!

Start out by printing the planner page. I'll walk you through what it looks like to schedule all of your cold flowers and then you can go through and finish all of your planning in no time flat.

I like to start a separate sheet for the tender annuals.

12 weeks before last frost

2018 Cool Flowers Schedule

	Feb 17	Feb 24	Mar 3	March 10	March 17	March 24	March 31	April 7	April 14	April 21
Agrostemma	✓			✓	✓					
Ammi	✓			✓			✓			✓
Bells	✓		✓							
Bupleurum	✓	✓		✓	✓					
Centaurea	✓		✓							
Cerinth	✓			✓			✓			
Cynoglossum	✓		✓		✓			✓		
Dill	✓			✓			✓			
Galetia	✓		✓		✓					
Larkspur	✓		✓		✓					
Matriaria	✓		✓		✓					
Nigella	✓	✓		✓	✓					
Poppies	✓			✓	✓					
Rudbeckia	✓			✓	✓					
Scabiosa	✓		✓		✓			✓		
Shiso	✓		✓		✓					

transplanting date!

GROWFLOWERS.ORG | SARAH FUNK

grow *flowers*!



Good work!!

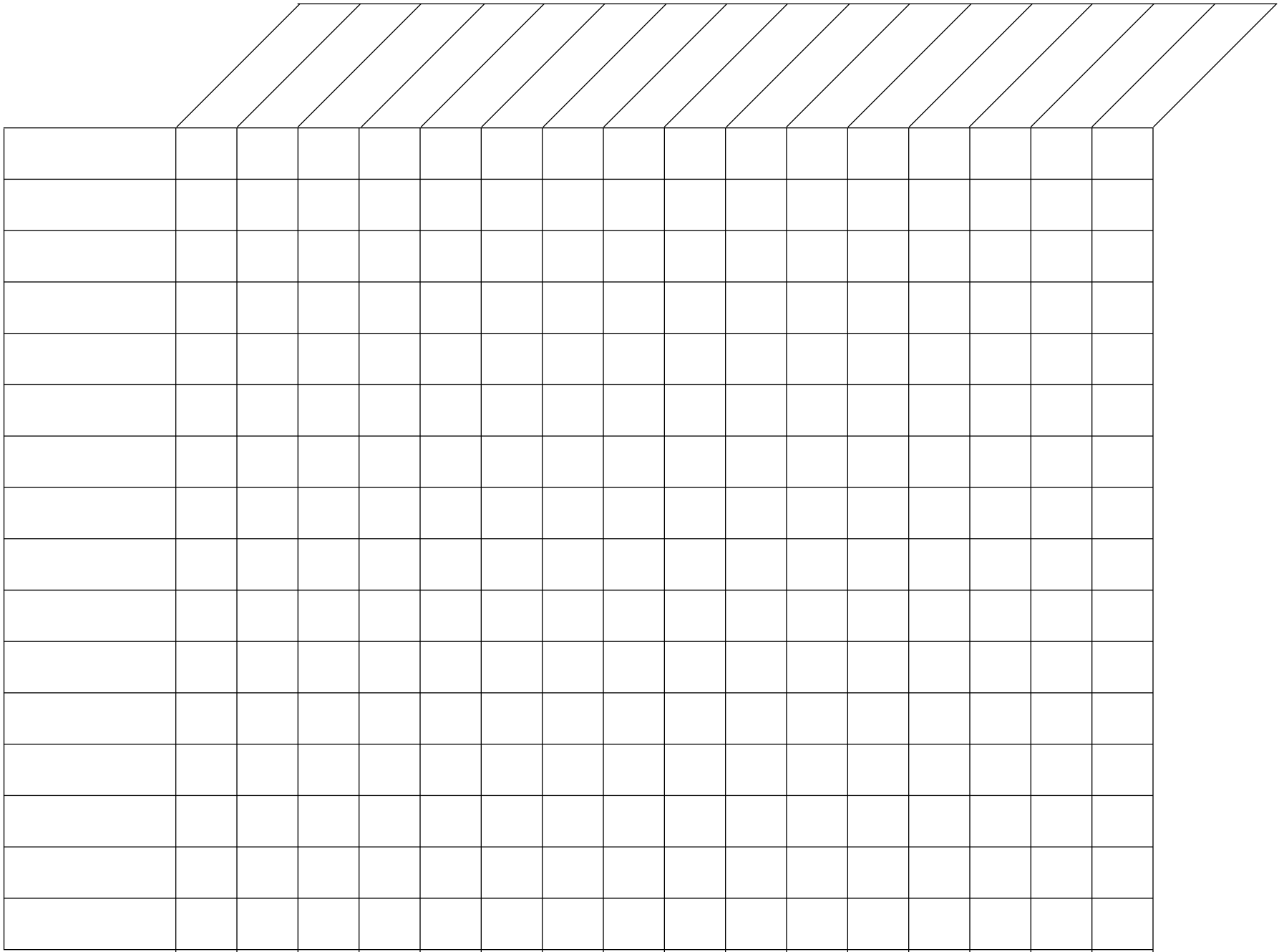
You did it. You now have an ENTIRE season completely planned out so that you'll have all of the right flowers when you need them.

Send me an email if you have any questions, I love to talk all things flower farm planning!

love,

Sarah





Succession Planting Chart				
Name	Varieties	Cool Flower	# of plantings	time between plantings
Achillea	Colorado Mix, the Pearl, etc.	yes		
Ageratum	Blue Horizon, Tall Blue Planet		2	every 4 weeks
Agrostemma	Ocean Pearls, Purple Queen	Yes	2	every 2-3 weeks
Amaranthus	Coral Fountains, hot biscuit, oppeo		2-3	3 weeks apart
Ammi	Green Mist, Dara	Yes	2	3-4 weeks apart
Artemisia	Sweet Annie			
Basil	aromatto, lemon, cinnamon, african blue		2-3	3-4 weeks
Bells of Ireland	Bells of Ireland	Yes	2	3 weeks apart
Bupleurum	Green Gold	Yes	4	every 2 weeks
Campanula	Medium, Champion	Yes		
Celosia	Cramer's, Chief, Pampas Plume, etc.		3-4	every 2-4 weeks
Centaurea	Boy Series	Yes	2-3	3 weeks apart
Cerithe	Kiwi Blue	Yes	2-3	3-4 weeks
Cosmos	Cupcake, Double Click, Sensation, Versailles		3	every 2-4 weeks
Cynoglossum	Chinese Forget Me-Not, Rose Magic	Yes	2-3	3-4 weeks
Delphinium	Belladonna, Magic Fountains	Yes	1-2	
Dianthus	Amazon, Electron, (both FYF)	Yes		
Dill	Bouquet, Vierling	Yes		
Dusty Miller	Circadians, New Look	Yes	1-2	
Eucalyptus	Lemon Bush, Silver Drop, Silver Dollar	Yes	1	
Euphorbia	Mountain Snow			
Godetia (clarkia)	Grace Series	Yes	3	3 weeks apart
Gomphrena	QIS Series, Strawberry Fields		2-3	every 3-4 weeks
Flowering Kale	Crane Series	Yes		
Lisianthus	Arena, Doublini, Echo, Miriachi	Yes		
Larkspur	QIS, Giant Imperial, Messenger	Yes	3	3 weeks apart
Marigold	Jedi		2-3	3 weeks apart
Matricaria	Magic, Tetra, Ultra	Yes	2-3	3 weeks apart
Millet	Lime Light, Purple Majesty, etc.			
Nigella	Albion, Cramer's, Miss Jekyll, etc.a	Yes	3-4	every 2 weeks
Orlaya	White Finch			
Poppies	Champagne Bubbles, Colibri	Yes	2	4 weeks apart
Rudbeckia	Prairie Sun, Tribola, Indian Summer	yes	2	every 4 weeks
Scabiosa	Pincushion	yes	3-4	
Scabiosa	Fama	yes		
Shiso (Perilla)	Britton, Red, Green	yes	3	3 weeks apart
Snapdragon	Chantilly, Madam Butterfly, Opus, Rocket	yes	3	3-4 weeks
Statice	Fortress, QIS, Pastel Shades, etc.		3	3 weeks apart
Stock	Cheerful, Katz	Yes		
Sunflowers	Pro Cut, Vincent			
Sweet Peas	Elegance, Spencer	Yes	2	3 weeks apart
Zinnias	Benary's Giant, Oklahoma, Persian Carpet, Queen Red Lime		3	3 weeks apart