

# Goji Berry

## Planting & Growing Guide

Questions? Contact us at (888) 784-1722 or [helpdesk@groworganic.com](mailto:helpdesk@groworganic.com)

Goji plants are quite adaptable, but will grow best if provided the most favorable conditions. They prefer soil with a pH between 6.8–8.1 (use oystershell lime to raise your pH, and sulfur to lower pH). Both indoors and out, gojis require a sunny location. If temperatures reach 100°F or higher, afternoon shade is suggested. An inch or two of mulch will assist with moisture retention. Keep new plants moist, but not saturated. Once established, they are drought tolerant.

Berries can be harvested relatively soon. Container planted bushes may yield berries the first year, while those planted directly into the ground will need at least three years for full fruit production.

Gojis planted in the garden can grow to 10' high and 4–8' wide so plan wisely! Those grown in containers will be controlled by the depth of the pot since the height of the bush will cease to increase once the roots hit the bottom of the container.

### HEELING IN

When your bare root goji (or potted goji) arrives, open the plastic bags immediately. It is best to plant right away, within a week of delivery, however if you cannot plant right away, you may "heel in" the plants to protect them and keep them alive (but still dormant) until you are able to plant them in their permanent spot.

**Outdoors:** To heel in bare root plants outside, pick a location that is shielded from wind. Dig a trench about twice as deep as the roots are long, with one side of the trench sloping at a 45° angle. Cover the roots with soil or sand and gently tamp down to avoid air pockets. Periodically check the root area, keeping the soil moist.

**Indoors:** To heel in bare root plants indoors, whether due to snow or a frozen ground, choose a cool place like a root cellar, basement, or garage. It's important to choose a place where the temperature stays between 38°F and 45°F. This is important so the goji's roots neither freeze, nor do they break dormancy. Place the roots in a container with soil or sand and be sure to keep the root area moist. See our "Heeling in Bare Root Trees" video for more details.

### PLANTING & GROWING

Ideally, gojis should be planted soon after delivery. A potting mix of 1/3 sand to 2/3 good quality potting soil provides the best medium for growth and drainage. A 5 gallon container is sufficient for container grown plants. If you're planning on transplanting them into the garden, they may be started in 4–6" peat pots. Peat pots can be planted directly into the ground so that the roots are not disrupted during the transition.

It may be difficult to tell the top from the root of your goji berry plant. The root end may be slightly darker and rough, while the growing tip will be smoother and possibly grayish in appearance. If you are still unsure you may lay the roots sideways and cover them lightly with soil to see which end sprouts.

Plant your goji berry plant with the crown (the point where the root starts) at soil level. Water and push up soil as it settles to achieve the correct depth. Avoid fertilizing with high nitrogen as this can lead to excessive vegetative growth.

## Organic Gardening Resource Center

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[How to Grow Goji Berries](#)

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## Important Information

- If your gojis arrive damaged, take photographs and contact us immediately and we will provide you with a refund of the purchase price, or a replacement.
- You should plant your gojis in the ground by April 1st. If you are unable to do so, you can plant it in a pot or "heel in" your gojis until you are able to plant.
- Bare root gojis ship in dry shavings to prevent mold from growing in transit.
- Bare root gojis look like a twig! Some may not even have visible roots. Please do not be alarmed, this is normal.

### PRUNING

Since gojis are vigorous growers and tend to grow in a "weeping willow" fashion, you will eventually want to prune your bushes. Substantial pruning should be done during the winter months, while judicious snipping can be done throughout the growing season to shape or improve berry yield. Do not prune heavily the first year. When the plant reaches 2' in height, prune all the bottom branches up to 15" from the soil and pinch out growing tips to create a bushier appearance. Ineffective, non-bearing branches that appear straight and smooth and grow rapidly may be removed. Regular pruning will help maintain gojis as attractive bush, hedge, trellis or container plants.



## Return Policy

### Perishable Items (3-Day Return Policy)

We guarantee the perishable items we sell to be in good, viable condition when we sell them. Perishable items include, but are not limited to, garlic bulbs, flower bulbs, seed potatoes, onion sets & transplants, bare-root trees, vegetable crowns... etc. If your perishable item arrives in substandard condition, please contact us within 3 days of the purchase date (or delivery date) and we will provide you with a refund of the purchase price (including shipping costs), or a replacement. Accordingly, we urge you to open any boxes marked as "Perishable" immediately upon receiving them. Because some perishable items can deteriorate very quickly, we cannot accept any claims beyond the 3-day time frame as it becomes too difficult to determine if these items were delivered in substandard condition, or if they turned into such substandard condition because of having been improperly cared for or stored once delivered.

### Limited Product Guarantee

#### Limitation of Remedy

We warrant to the extent of the purchase price only that the seeds or plants sold hereunder are as described on the label within recognized tolerances. No other warranty is given, expressed or implied, of (1) the merchantability or fitness of the seeds or plants for any particular purpose, or (2) against loss due to any cause. We cannot accept any responsibility for the many uncontrollable growing and climatic conditions (soil preparation, fertilization, weed and pest control, temperature control, irrigation...etc.) that must be met to insure the success of your crop(s) or plants.



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