

AMARANTH



INFORMATION FORM

Please fill out the following questions about each amaranth variety you grow. When applicable, all measurements should be metric. Weight can be in lbs. as it's easily converted to grams or kilos.

CATALOG NO./CROP NAME:

Date planted:

Date transplanted into garden
(if applicable):

Date of 1st germination:

Date of last germination:

Did the crop receive full sun, partial sun, or full shade?
.....

Date of 1st flower:

Date of 50% flowering:

Date of 1st harvest:

Date of last harvest:

continued

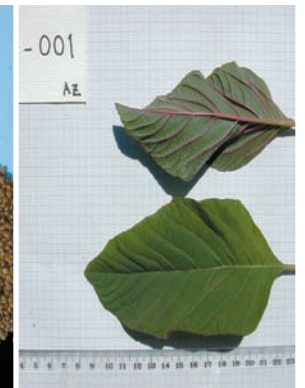
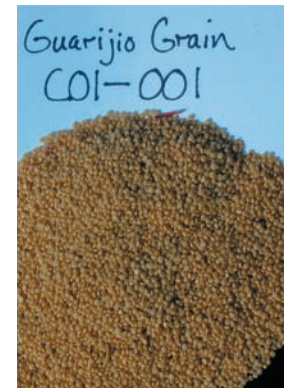
PHOTOGRAPHING AMARANTH

Getting good photographs of plants in the field can be difficult. Mostly what we're looking for in amaranth is some **sense of the overall plant**. At right are several examples to help you best document each variety you grow. If you're growing more than one amaranth variety, be sure to label each photograph with the catalog name and number. If you're only growing one variety, it's still a good idea, but less critical. If possible, be sure to include **something for scale** in each photograph—a yard/meter stick, shovel, person, etc. for whole plants; a ruler, business card, etc. for close-ups.

Some of the most relevant features in amaranth are the color—of the seeds, stalks and leaves. Photo-documenting the leaves, including the **color of the veins** (particularly on the backside of the leaf), can be nicely accomplished with graph paper and a ruler.

The color of the cleaned seed is not always the same as the “flowers”. For pictures of seed, be sure to **use cleaned seed** (rub the flowers between screens or your hands—use gloves—to remove seed from the flower).

SAMPLE PHOTOS



AMARANTH



What color(s) were the stalks/leaves/flowers? Please describe each:

.....
.....
.....

Were most plants single stalked or branched?

.....

How tall was the plant at maturity?

.....

What color were the seeds?

.....

Was the surface of the leaves prickly (small hairs), smooth, rough, etc.?

.....
.....

Were the plants subject to any unusual or particularly harsh weather (hail, hard rain, early frost or freezing, etc.)? When? How did they fare?

Were there any problems with disease, fungus, insects, or other pests? How did plants respond? Did you use anything to treat the problem? How well did it work?

Please provide an overall description of how you grew this crop, including a brief description of how you watered (hose, drip, rain only, etc.) and about how often (i.e., did it experience some drought, weekly soakings), whether it needed trellising, was it intercropped and with what, did it need extra shade, did the grasshoppers seem to like it particularly, etc.

QUESTION KEY

AMARANTH



Date planted: the date you sowed the seeds, either directly into the ground or in a seedling tray.

Date transplanted into garden: the date you transplanted the seedlings into the garden.

Date of 1st germination: the date you noticed the first seedling emerge (either from the ground or in a seedling tray; if a seedling tray, be sure to let us know how/where you started the plants).

Date of 1st flowering: the date you noticed the first flowers appear.

Date of 50% flowering: the date when 50% of the number of plants are in flower, even if they only have one flower each!

Date of 1st /last harvest: this may depend on how you harvest the amaranth stalks; if you wait to harvest all at once at the end of the season, simply record that date; if you harvest periodically, just record the dates of your first and last harvests.

What color(s) were the stalks/leaves/flowers? Many amaranths are pigmented, that is, they contain anthocyanins. Thus, their stalks, leaves or flowers may be red rather than green. Please note the color of the various plant parts. **A photograph helps.**

Were most plants single stalked or multi-branched? Most amaranth plants are single stalked, but let us know if yours have many stalks arising from the base. If so, did the plants suffer any damage when young (damage to the apical meristem can result in more than one branch being produced).

How tall was the plant at maturity? Try to measure from the ground to the average highest point in the plot; a metric ruler (cm) is best, but use whatever you have.

What color were the seeds? Seeds of amaranth are mostly either black or blond. Some of our varieties have both, but might be predominantly one color over the other.

Was the surface of the leaves prickly, smooth, rough? Most amaranth plants have typical smooth leaves. But others may be hairy or prickly. Let us know about the leaves on your variety.