

Planting tip for the second week of May

It is shaping up to be a cold May. This can be a nightmare for getting seeds to germinate especially melons, squash, and pumpkin seeds

My tip for this week is to start your melons, watermelons, squash, and pumpkins in the house this week. I have a special heating pad that I plug into a powers strip. This heats the pots from the bottom up keeping the seeds warm during the day. The light from my grow lights and south facing windows provide plenty of light for the new plants. If you don't have a heat pad or grow lights simply find a good south or east window that is warm and sunny during the day and very cool at night. You don't want it too warm at night or these plants will get gangly fast.

Most people don't plant melons here in Minnesota and most often they tell me it is because they do not ripen. Well, starting melons in the house gives you a two to three week jump start and that can be just enough at the end of the year to have two to three weeks of eating luscious melons!