

# GROW YOUR OWN ONIONS

## General Information

- *Allium cepa*, Onion
- Amaryllidaceae family
- Sunlight: full sun.
- Soil conditions: Well-drained, fertile soil.
- Can be planted from seeds, sets (pictured left), and transplants (pictured right). Onion bulbing is triggered by day length.
- Short Day varieties form bulbs when day length reaches 10 hours. Can be grown in the North. Intermediate Day varieties form bulbs when day length reaches 12-13 hours. Can be grown in most areas except far North, and Deep South. Long Day varieties form bulbs when day length reaches 14 hours. Grow best in northern areas including Delaware.



## Successful Cultivars

- Big Daddy (110 days) Spanish style, yellow onion. Long Day. Good storage onion.
- Walla Walla (80-90 days) Big round onions, sweet, mild, juicy flesh. Long Day.
- Red Candy (95 days) Glossy red, sweet, mild flavor. Intermediate Day. (pictured here)



## Common Pests & Diseases

- Onion Maggot
- Leafminers
- Thrips
- Downy Mildew
- Leaf Blight
- Onion Rust (pictured here)



UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE  
COOPERATIVE  
EXTENSION

