



Peonies and Heirloom Chrysanthemums

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“Shoulder” Seasons

- ❖ Events
- ❖ Busiest time for florists.
- ❖ Hardy Annuals
- ❖ Perennials
 - ❖ Peonies
 - ❖ Woodies
- ❖ Heirloom Mums

Peonies

- ❖ Worth the investment!
- ❖ Location
 - ❖ Full Sun
 - ❖ Good drainage
- ❖ Cold Period



Peonies: Planting

- ❖ Bare roots in the fall.
 - ❖ Order early spring
- ❖ 2 rows per bed
 - ❖ Rows 18" apart
 - ❖ Plants 24" apart within row
 - ❖ Zigzag pattern
- ❖ Weed Control
 - ❖ Landscape Fabric
 - ❖ Mulch
- ❖ Plant with eyes only about 2" below soil surface
- ❖ Drip Tape
 - ❖ Keep well watered in late summer. Especially first season while getting established.



Peonies: Disbudding

- ❖ First 3 years?
- ❖ Side shoots



Peonies: Harvesting

- ❖ Marshmallow Stage
 - ❖ Multiple times a day
- ❖ Leave as much foliage as possible
- ❖ Store in cooler
 - ❖ In water: 1 week
 - ❖ Dry Storage
 - ❖ Never put in water, make sure everything completely dry.
 - ❖ Wrap in Kraft paper
 - ❖ Trim stem and let rehydrate for a few hours before use.
- ❖ Vase life
 - ❖ 3-5 days



Peonies: Varieties

- ❖ Early, mid and late season
 - ❖ Choose a variety
- ❖ Classic varieties to start with:
 - ❖ Sarah Bernhardt
 - ❖ Duchess de Nemours
 - ❖ Kansas
- ❖ Itoh Peonies



Peonies

- ❖ Early Production
 - ❖ Plant in tunnel (low tunnel)
 - ❖ Open all winter
 - ❖ Close 4 weeks before peonies in field normally bloom
- ❖ Fall Cleanup
 - ❖ Cut back all foliage in fall



Heirloom Chrysanthemums

- ❖ Bloom late fall, after dahlias
- ❖ Day length sensitive
- ❖ Ideally grown in tunnel
- ❖ Sourcing plants can be difficult



Heirloom Chrysanthemums

- ❖ Sourcing cuttings
 - ❖ King's Mums
 - ❖ Fairbault Grower's
 - ❖ Minimum 25 each variety
 - ❖ Ball Colorlink
 - ❖ Local or state Mum Societies



Heirloom Chrysanthemums

- ❖ Cuttings
 - ❖ Save mother plants
 - ❖ 2-3" tip and stem
 - ❖ Remove foliage and dip end in rooting hormone
 - ❖ 50 cell plug tray, cube
 - ❖ Trays in warm, humid spot
 - ❖ Frequent misting



Heirloom Chrysanthemums

❖ Planting

- ❖ Plant out when soil is warm
- ❖ Pinch plants (can be rooted) until July
 - ❖ Leave 2-3 sets of leaves on each stem

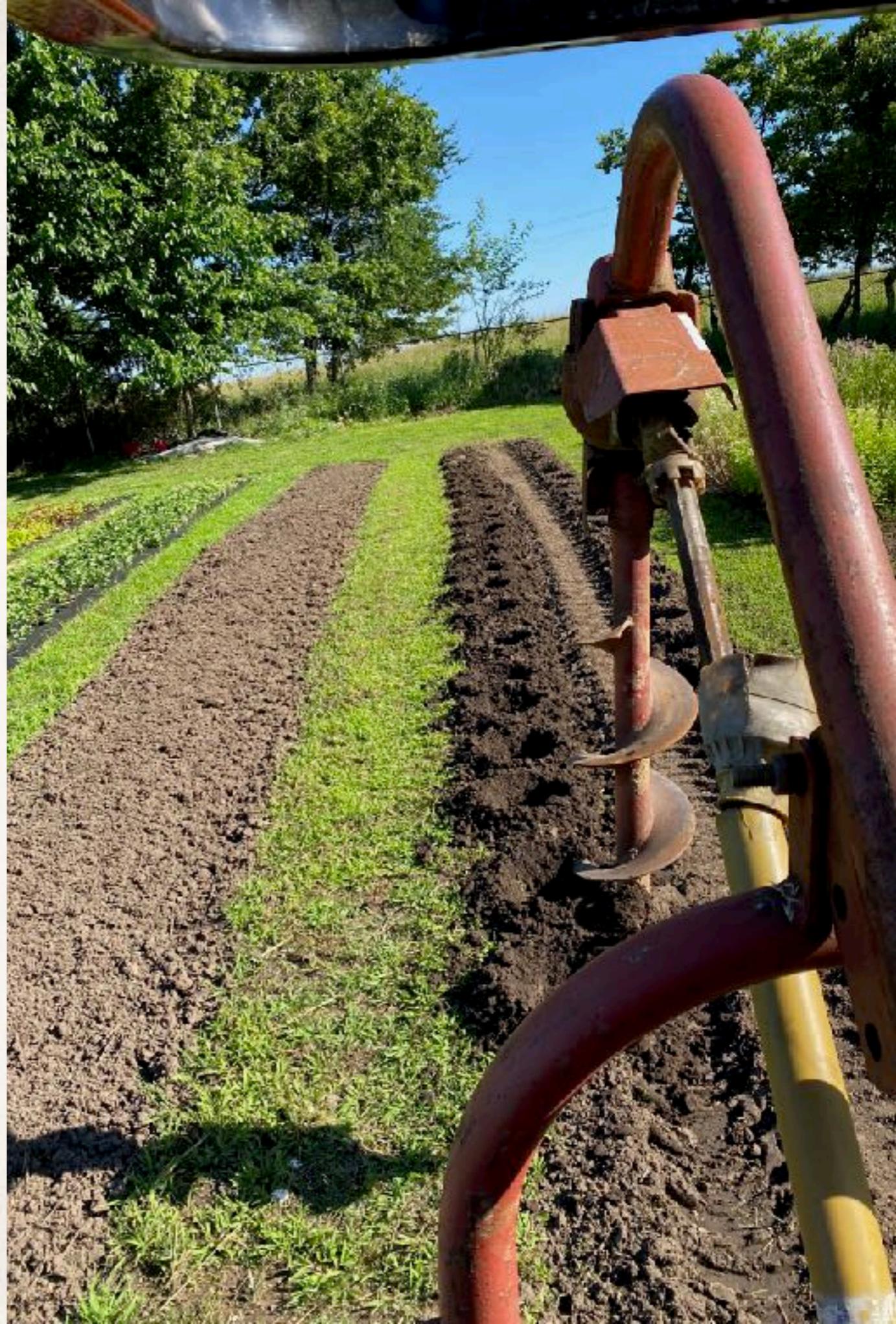
❖ Spacing

- ❖ 6-12"

❖ Support!

❖ Water

❖ Fertilizer



Heirloom Chrysanthemums

- ❖ Disbudding
 - ❖ Remove side buds
 - ❖ 1 large bloom
 - ❖ Pinch out center bud
 - ❖ Spray of flowers
 - ❖ Do nothing



Heirloom Chrysanthemums

- ❖ Harvesting
 - ❖ Harvest when 3/4 or fully open
 - ❖ Can hold in cooler for a long time
 - ❖ Vase life: 10-14 days
- ❖ Pricing



Heirloom Chrysanthemums

- ❖ Fall cleanup
 - ❖ Save stock
 - ❖ Mother plant or take cuttings
 - ❖ Careful of patents



