

# Growing Vegetables in North Vancouver

## part 3: Cucumbers

2020 LVGC VEGGIEMATES

# Cucumbers

- West Coast Seeds Catalogue – 22 varieties
- All quick maturing from transplant
  - 45 – 70 days
- All easy to grow



# Cucumber types

- Mostly vines -- even Patio Snacker that only grows 36" needs support for the full sized fruits (tomato hoop?) or can be planted in hanging pot
  - English cukes – thin skinned, long
  - Beit Alpha – stubby, thick skinned
  - Pickling
- Parthenocarpic – all female flowers -- does not need pollinators – has few or no seeds
- Burpless – easier to digest

# Female flower



**Beit Alpha type**



**Long English type**





# Cucumber requirements

Quick grower

Needs lots of sun, water and fertilizer

Consistent watering is important

- letting cukes dry out can lead to bitter fruit

Needs trellising – some can grow to 8'

- avoids pests and allows cukes to grow straight
- vines are strong, so cukes don't need individual support

# Various vertical supports





# Various vertical supports

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# Cucumbers are *prolific*

- Need only 1 – 2 plants – side shoots occur
- If picked and supported, they keep producing until frost
- Ripe when bright green and the mature size in the WC Seeds Catalogue
- When they turn yellow, they are growing their seeds and aren't as good