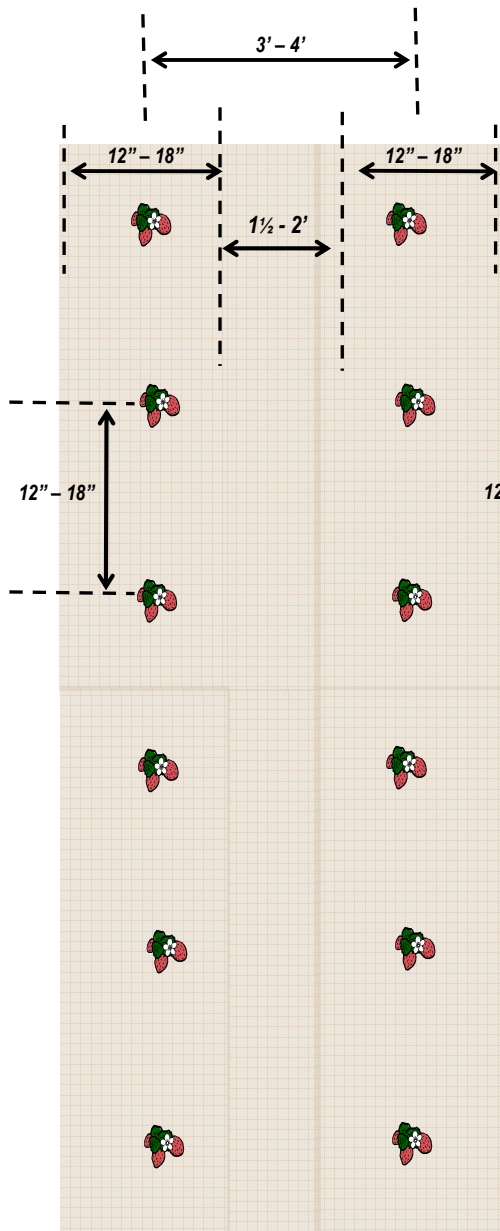
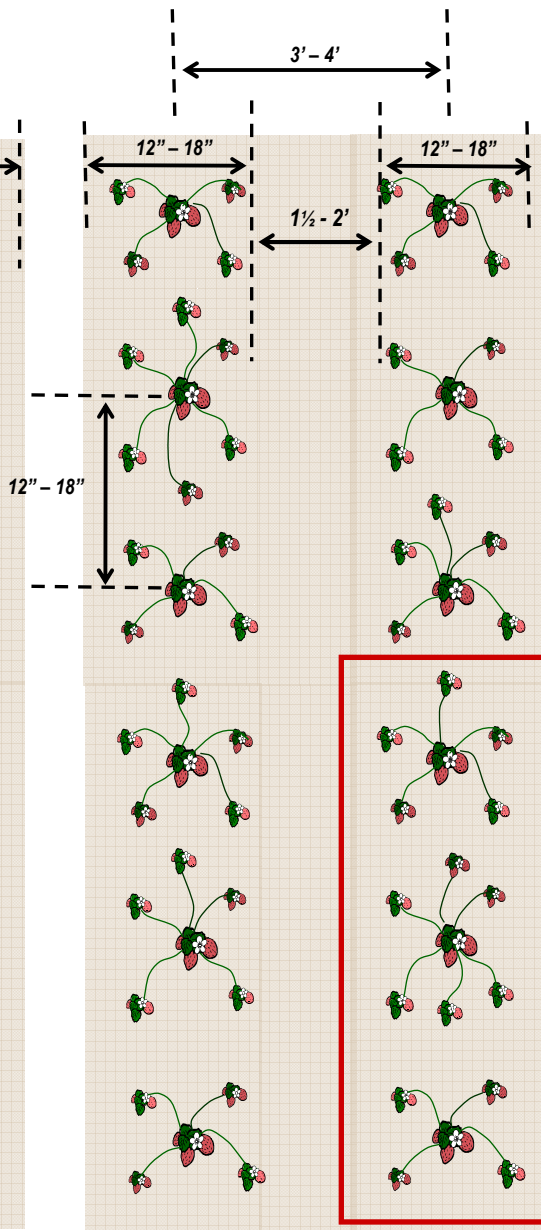


dormant, bare-root strawberry plants spaced 12" – 18" apart in rows (rows are 3' – 4' on center)



evenly space 4-5 daughters from each mother over the row (all plants should be at least 6" from its neighbor)



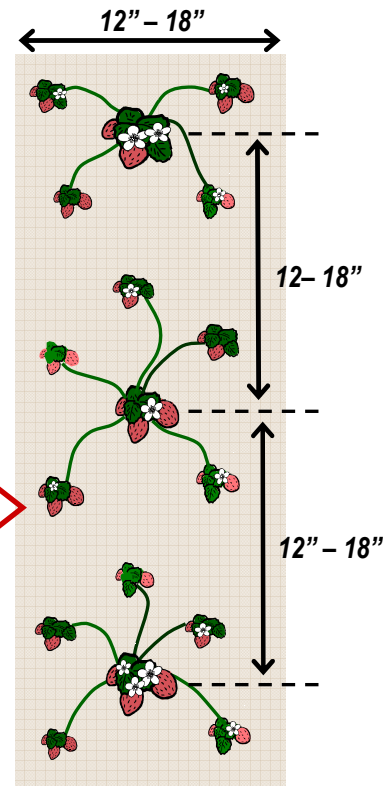
Strawberry Plant Spacing

June-bearing strawberries are most often planted to produce a matted row.

- Your plants will produce runners which you arrange in the bed to fill in the row.
- Keep a pathway approximately 18" wide between rows.
- Remove or relocate additional runners that develop so the plants don't get overcrowded.

SPACING

12' – 18" between plants
3' – 4' between rows

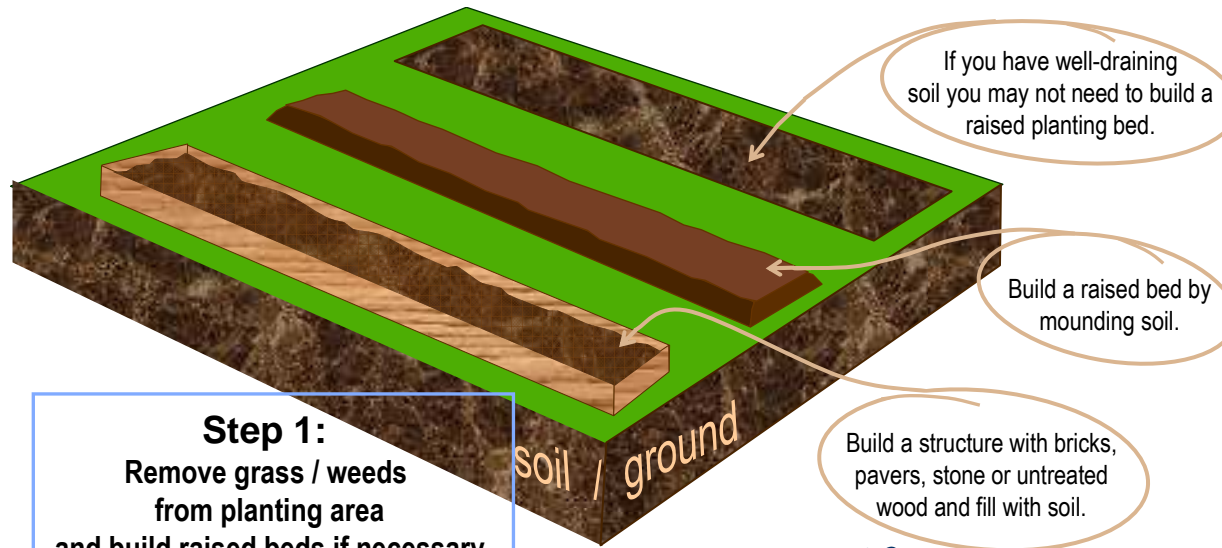


Matted-row



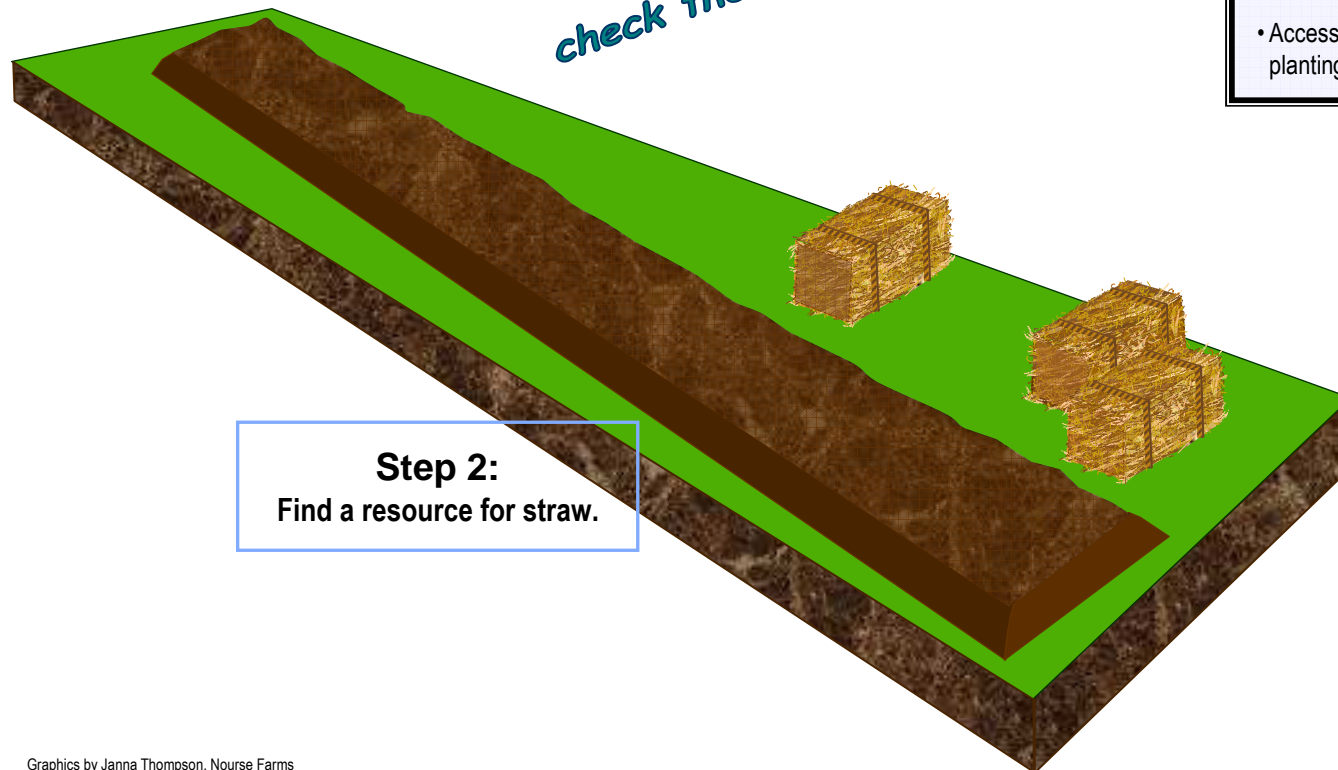
Prepare your Planting Area for Strawberries

- Strawberries grow best in well-drained loam or sandy-loam soil, rich in organic matter. If organic matter is required, mix in some **well-aged** compost or manure a few weeks prior to planting or in the Fall prior to planting.
- Build raised beds if your soil is slow to drain after a rain or if you have heavier soil or clay soil.
- Check soil pH. Optimum pH: 6.5 – 6.8
- Do not fertilize too close to your planting date. Mix ½lb 10-10-10 per 100 sq. ft. at least 2 - 3 weeks prior to planting or the Fall prior to planting.
- Find straw for covering the bed during the growing season **and** for covering the plants before Winter.
- Access to water is important. Plants will need irrigation at planting and throughout the growing season.



Step 1:
Remove grass / weeds
from planting area
and build raised beds if necessary.
(For best results, do this step in the
Autumn prior to Spring planting.)

*Don't forget to
check the soil pH!*



Step 2:
Find a resource for straw.



Applying straw in the Spring has many benefits including weed control. Covering your entire planting with straw before winter protects plants from Winter injury.

Maintain Your Strawberry Plants

JUNE-BEARING

IRRIGATION

- Throughout the growing season 1" – 2" rainfall or equivalent is necessary per week, depending on soil.

FERTILIZATION

Establishment year

- Mix ½ lb of 10-10-10 per 100 sq ft into soil 2 or more weeks prior to planting.
- Side-dress with ½ lb 10-10-10 in July, August and September.

Subsequent years

- Side-dress with 1½ lb 10-10-10 between renovation (see below) and early September.
- Regularly check the soil pH and amend to keep at the optimum 6.5 - 6.8.
- **CAUTION:** Over-fertilizing is detrimental.

WEED CONTROL

- Thoroughly remove weeds prior to planting.
- Weekly cultivation is required. Remember the roots are shallow. Take care not to damage the roots.
- You may apply a granular herbicide to control weeds before they grow. Check with your local agricultural extension before using chemicals.
- Proper mulching will aid in weed control.

RENOVATION

- June-bearing strawberry plants require renovation. After all the berries have been harvested, mow or clip the plants and remove the clippings from the strawberry bed. Do not renovate in the planting year. (Ever-bearing / day-neutral strawberry plants are not renovated.)
- Be careful not to cut or injure the crowns during this process.
- Apply 1lb 10-10-10 per 100 sq ft at time of renovation and ½ lb per 100 sq ft in September.

WINTER PROTECTION

- Cover plants with 4" of **straw** (not hay) mulch to protect the crowns. Salt hay is acceptable - do not use leaves.
- Apply mulch after several significant frosts.
- Remove mulch in early spring before new growth begins.

EVER-BEARING

IRRIGATION

- Throughout the growing season 1" – 2" rainfall or equivalent is necessary per week, depending on soil.

FERTILIZATION

Establishment year

- Mix ½ lb of 10-10-10 per 100 sq ft into soil 2 or more weeks prior to planting.
- Side-dress with ½ lb 10-10-10 in July, August.

Subsequent years

- Side-dress with ½ lb 10-10-10 in July, August.
- Regularly check the soil pH and amend to keep at the optimum 6.5 - 6.8.
- **CAUTION:** Over-fertilizing is detrimental.

WEED CONTROL

- Thoroughly remove weeds prior to planting.
- Weekly cultivation is required. Remember the roots are shallow. Take care not to damage the roots.
- You may apply a granular herbicide to control weeds before they grow. Check with your local agricultural extension before using chemicals.
- Proper mulching will aid in weed control.

RENOVATION

- Ever-bearing / day-neutral strawberry plants are not renovated.

WINTER PROTECTION

- Cover plants with 4" of **straw** (not hay) mulch to protect the crowns. Salt hay is acceptable - do not use leaves.
- Apply mulch after several significant frosts.
- Remove mulch in early spring before new growth begins.

Planting Your Strawberries

- Strawberries grow best in well-drained loam or sandy-loam soil, rich in organic matter. If organic matter is required, mix in some **well-aged** compost or manure a few weeks prior to planting or in the Autumn prior to planting.
- Build raised beds if your soil is slow to drain after a rain or if you have heavier soil or clay soil.
- Check soil pH. Optimum pH: 6.5 – 6.8
- Do not fertilize too close to your planting date. Mix $\frac{1}{2}$ lb - $\frac{3}{4}$ lb 10-10-10 per 100 sq. ft. at least 2 - 3 weeks prior to planting or the Fall prior to planting. You may fertilize 6 weeks after planting.
- Access to water is important. Plants will need irrigation at planting and throughout the growing season.
- Dig holes large and deep enough to allow the roots to go straight down without curling or cutting.
- Be careful to keep the soil line in the middle of the crown. Double check after several days to make sure the soil is at the proper level. During the season be careful not to cover the crowns with soil.
- Have straw ready to spread beneath your plants for the growing season. You will need more straw to cover the plants before Winter.

