JACARANDA

Planting Diary

Our Planting Team





Our Plants



Chilli Pepper 辣椒



Cucumber 青瓜



Sweet Potato 蕃薯



Water Spinach 通菜



Kale 羽衣甘藍



Swiss Chard 菁蓮菜



Chinese Spinach 覓菜



Chinese Cabbage 小棠菜

Cucumber

Day 1 10/3



Day 8 17/3



Day 14 23/3





Day 30 8/4



Day 35 13/4



Day 56 4/5

Trellaing

First Try







Challenges we faced

1. Insufficient bearing capacity
2. Joints between trellis are loosely connected

Second Try



Grid trellis

- Better structural stability and weight distribution

→ Prevent collapse

- Allow vine to spread out evenly

→ Maximise sunlight absorption



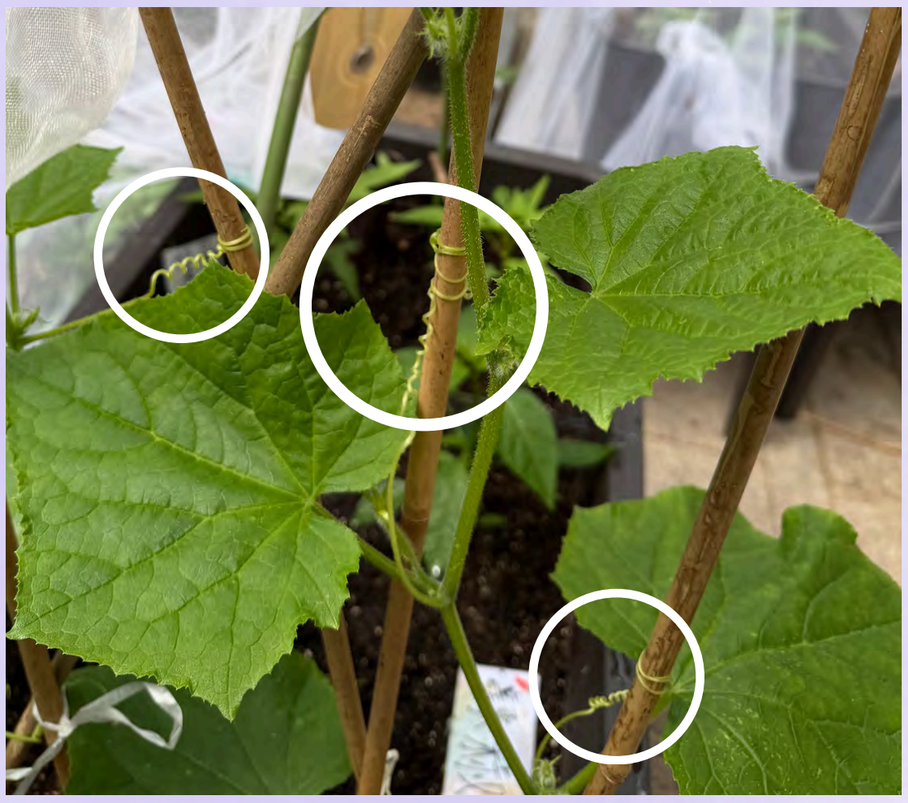


Stem Splitting

- Improper watering
- Cucumbers are heavy and lack of support

Method:
Use straw to hold the stem's shape and build grid trellis

Way to plant and Characteristics





Spring-like Tendrils

Use thin bamboo stakes

- They can easily grasp and coil around the stakes

-To provide proper support

-To make the vine stable and wind-resistant

Keep body hydrated

Promote healthy skin

Boost immune system

B&N&FITS

Banana Peel Enzyme Water



Ingredients

- Banana Peels
- White Sugar
- Water

Steps:

1. Tear banana peels into strips
2. Add white sugar, banana peels strips and water into plastic bottle
3. Leave about 20% of empty space for gas expansion
4. Tighten the cap
5. Place in shaded area
6. Loosen the cap to release gas
7. Fermentation (1-3 months)



Step 1



Step 6

Apply Banana Peel Enzyme Water to Cucumber





Why can it grow so big in short period of time ?

Banana Peel Enzyme Water!!!

- **Rich in Beneficial Microbes**

→ **Helps break down organic matter in soil for easier nutrients absorption**

- **Rich in Potassium**

→ **Stimulates flowering and fruiting, strengthens cucumber vines**

Watering Cucumber with Banana Peel Enzyme Water

Every 7 to 10 days once!!!



Dilute the banana peels into strips enzyme water with water at 1:100 ratio (e.g. 10mL enzyme water per 1L of water)

When start using ?
Cucumbers start climbing, producing flower buds and developing young fruits

Hypertrophic Leaves of Cucumber



Cucumbers leaves grow very large, vines climb quickly and densely

→ Dominating nutrient consumption, young cucumber starved of carbohydrate, leading to fruit abortion

→ Blocking sunlight from reaching shorter neighbouring plants

Prevention



Leaf Purning

To maximise nutrient allocation



Build Grid Trellis

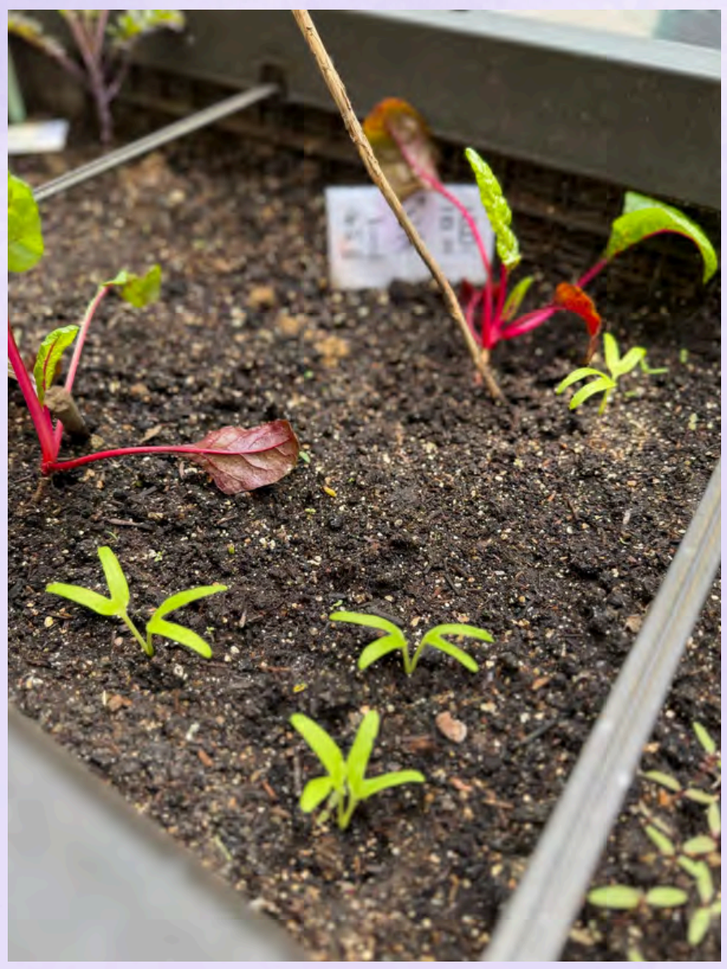
To maximise light absorption of each individual leaves

Water Spinach

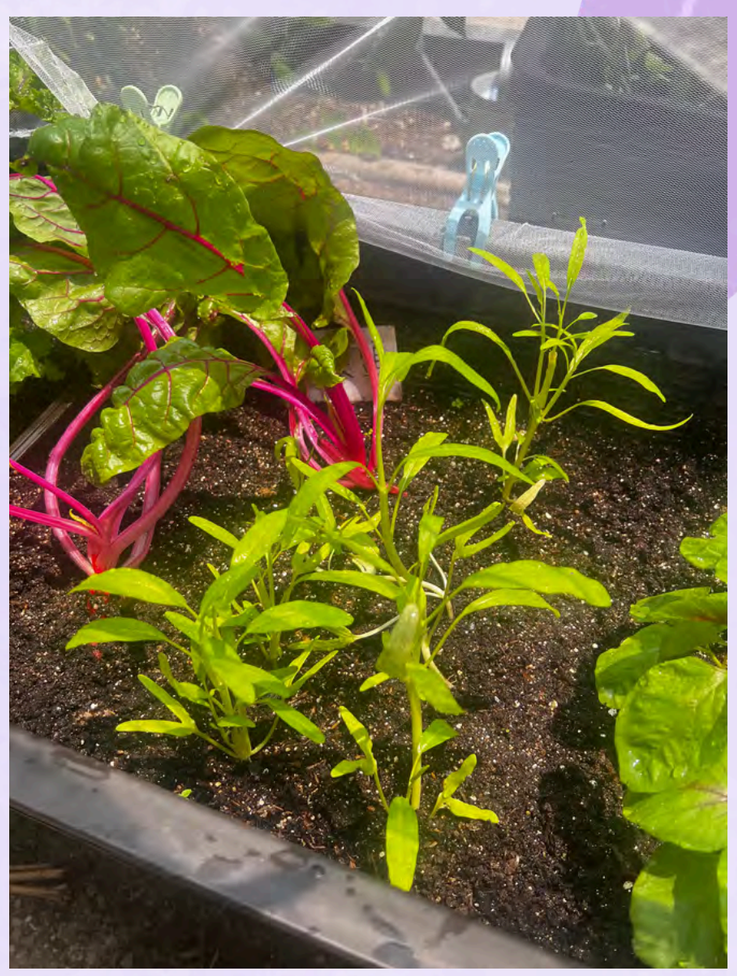
Day 14 23/3



Day 30 8/4



Day 36 14/4



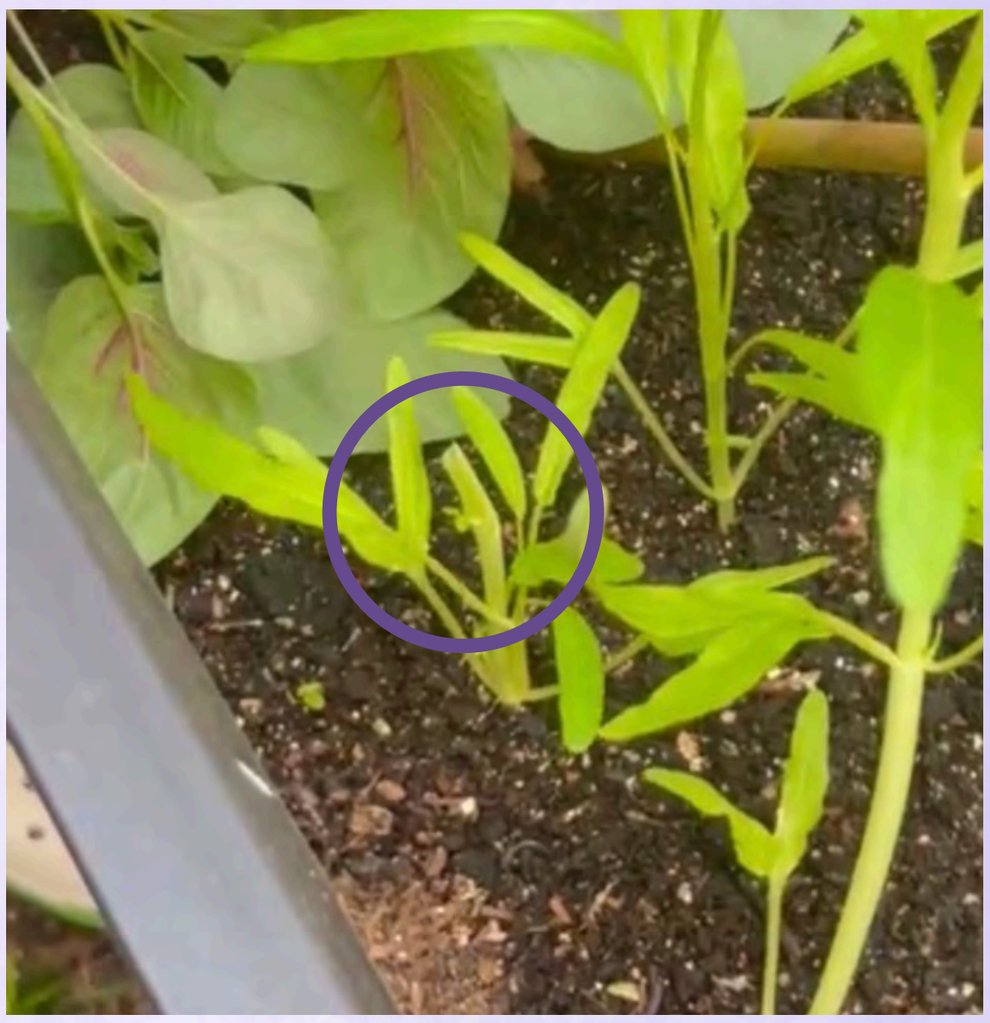
Dibbling

1. Loosen the soil and make sure it is moist and weed-free
2. Use a dibber to poke holes (2cm depth) in soil
3. Drop 1-3 seeds into each holes
4. Cover the hole with lose soil and gently press it down

Harvest of Water Spinach



Leave 2-3 nodes (3-5cm) of the stem remaining and cut the top tender stems and leaves



The remaining nodes on the base stem will quickly sprout new side shoots

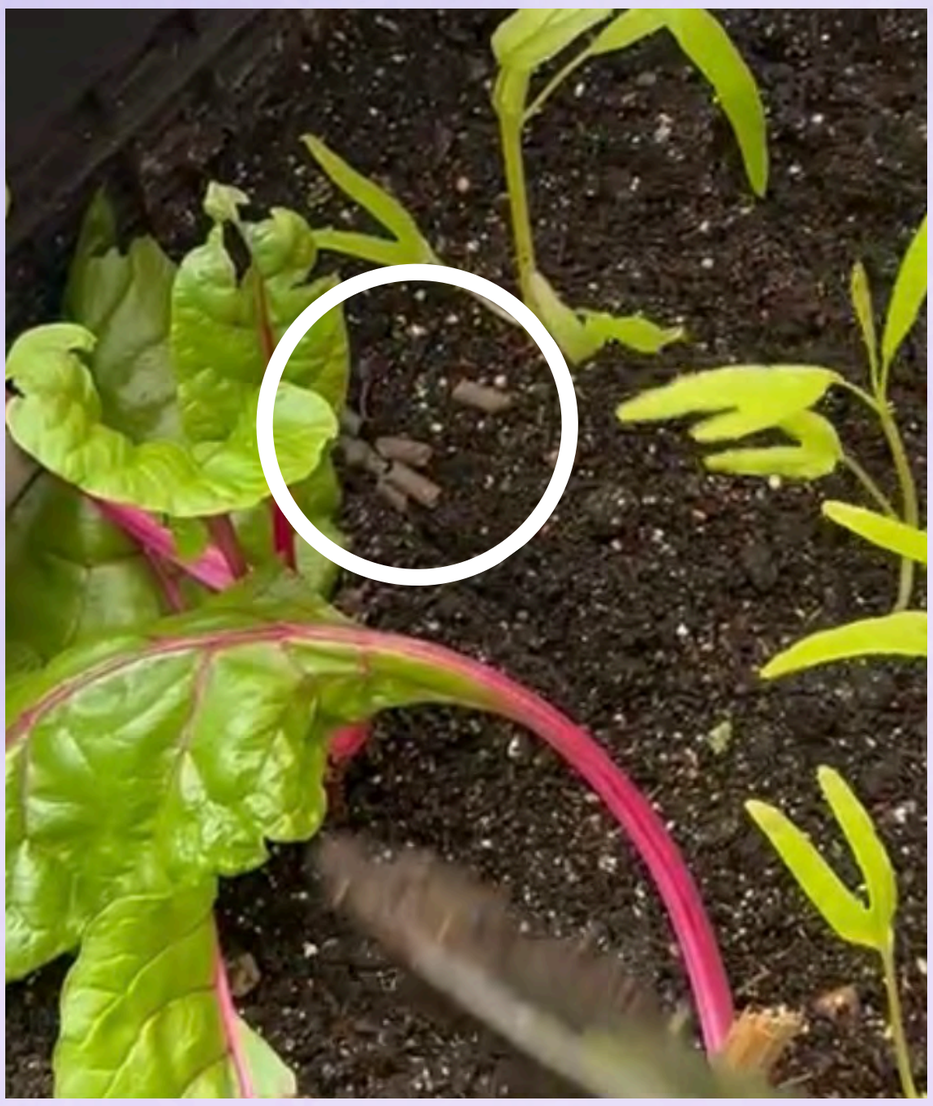
Chicken Manure Fertiliser



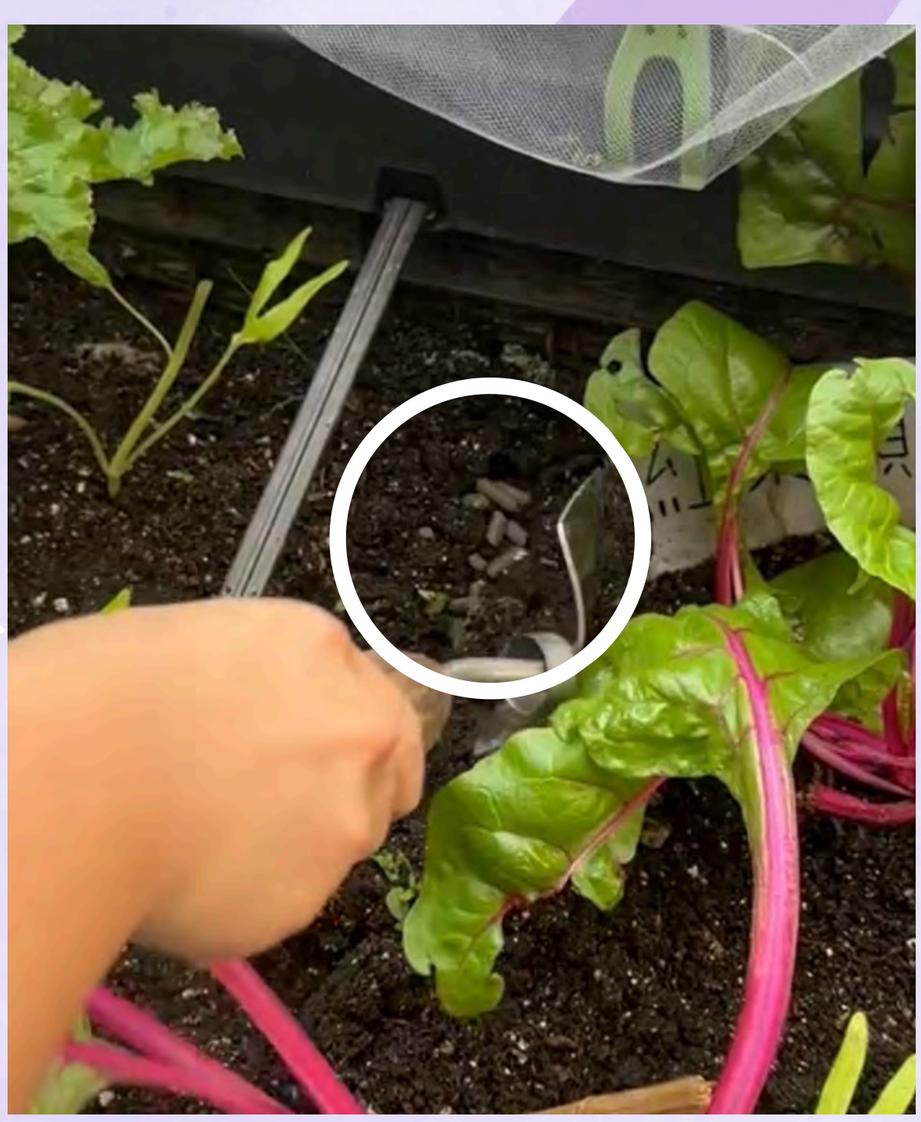
Base Fertiliser

1. 10 handfuls of chicken manure fertiliser for each planting box
2. Scatter them evenly
3. Use a garden fork to dig and turn the soil over down to 20-30cm deep
4. Fertiliser are mixed and buried

Apply Chicken Manure Fertiliser to Water Spinach



When seedlings are about 5-10cm tall



After harvesting 2-3 days

Steps:

1. Dig a small hole, keeping it about 3-5cm away from the water spinach stem
2. Put chicken manure into the hole and cover with soil
3. Watering

Chinese Spinach

4 Days





19 Days



Chinese Cabbage





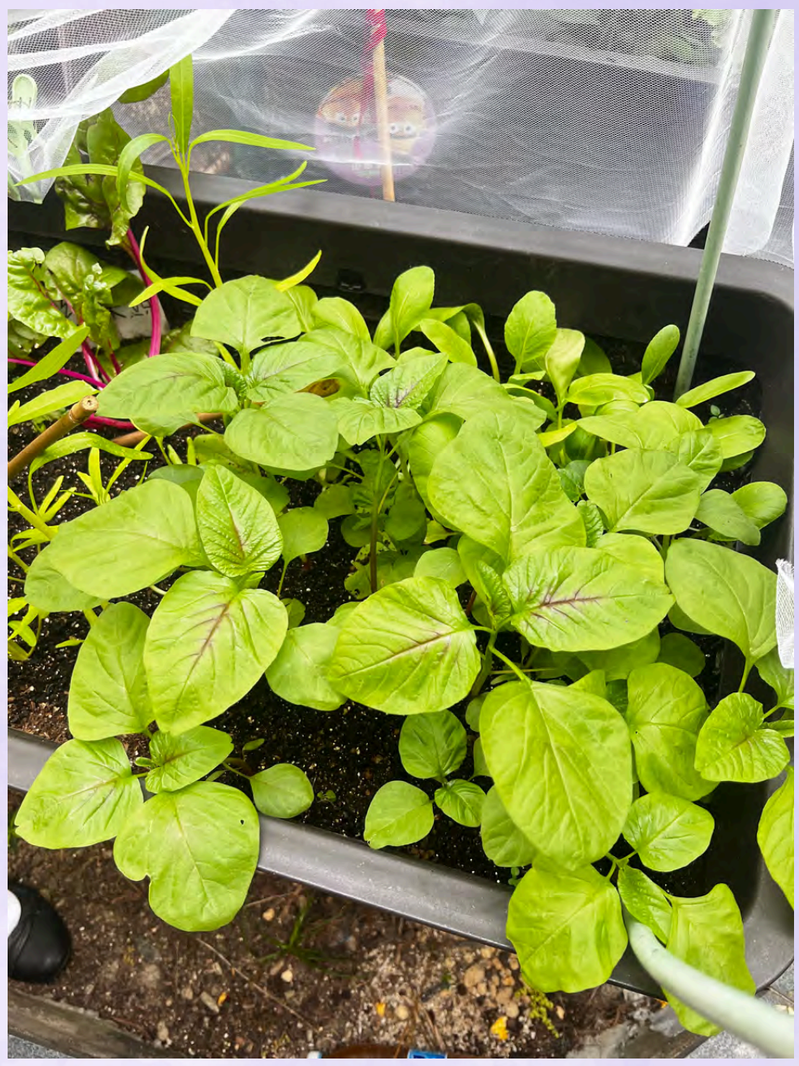
22 Days





Broadcasting

1. Blend small seeds with soil at 1:3 ratio
2. Scatter the soil-seed mixture evenly
3. Press the soil down to make sure the seeds are locked in place



Thinning

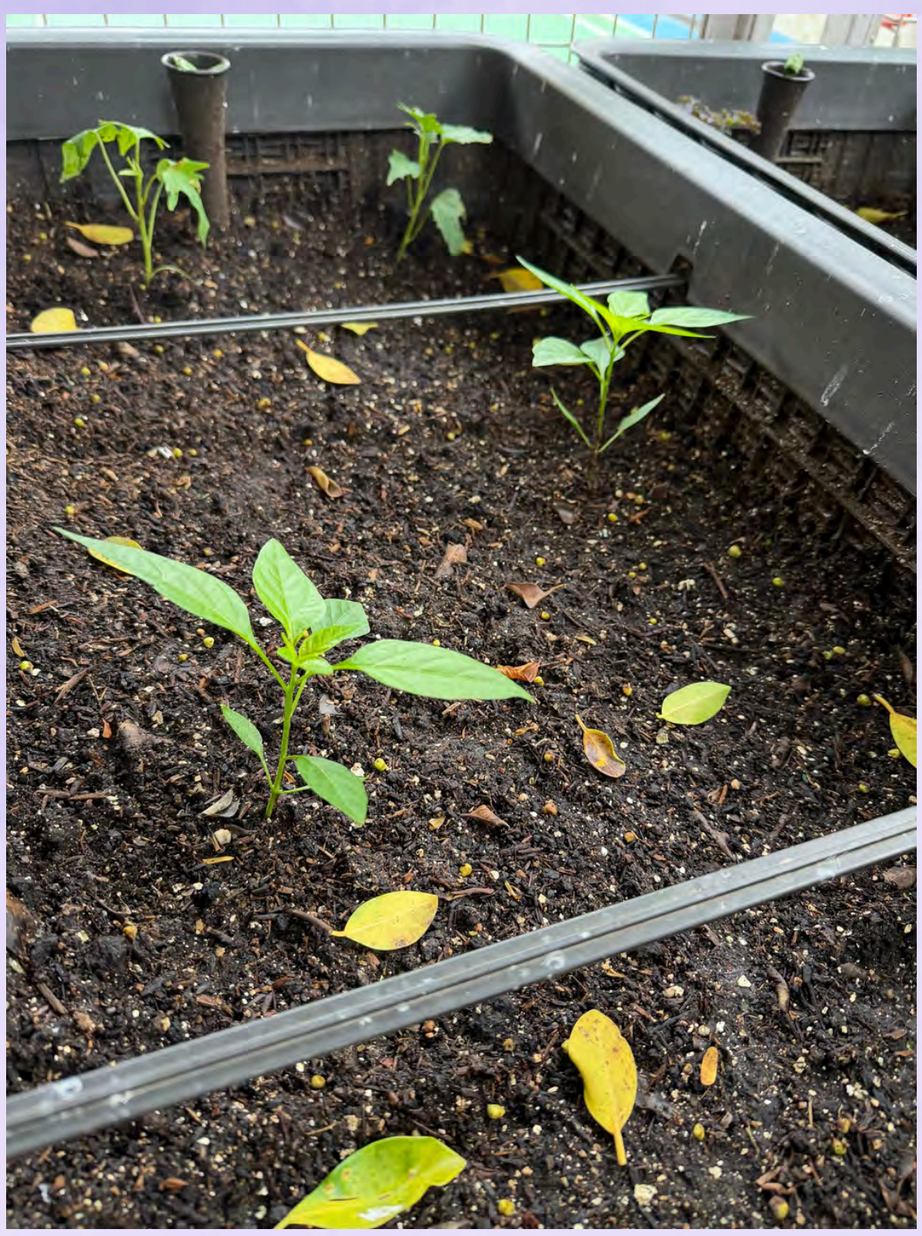
Timing: About 2-5cm tall

1. Keep the healthiest and strongest-looking seedlings
2. Gently pull out the weaker or crowded seedlings

Pros:

- Reduce competition for nutrients, water and sunlight
- Provide enough space for remaining plants

Chilli Peppers



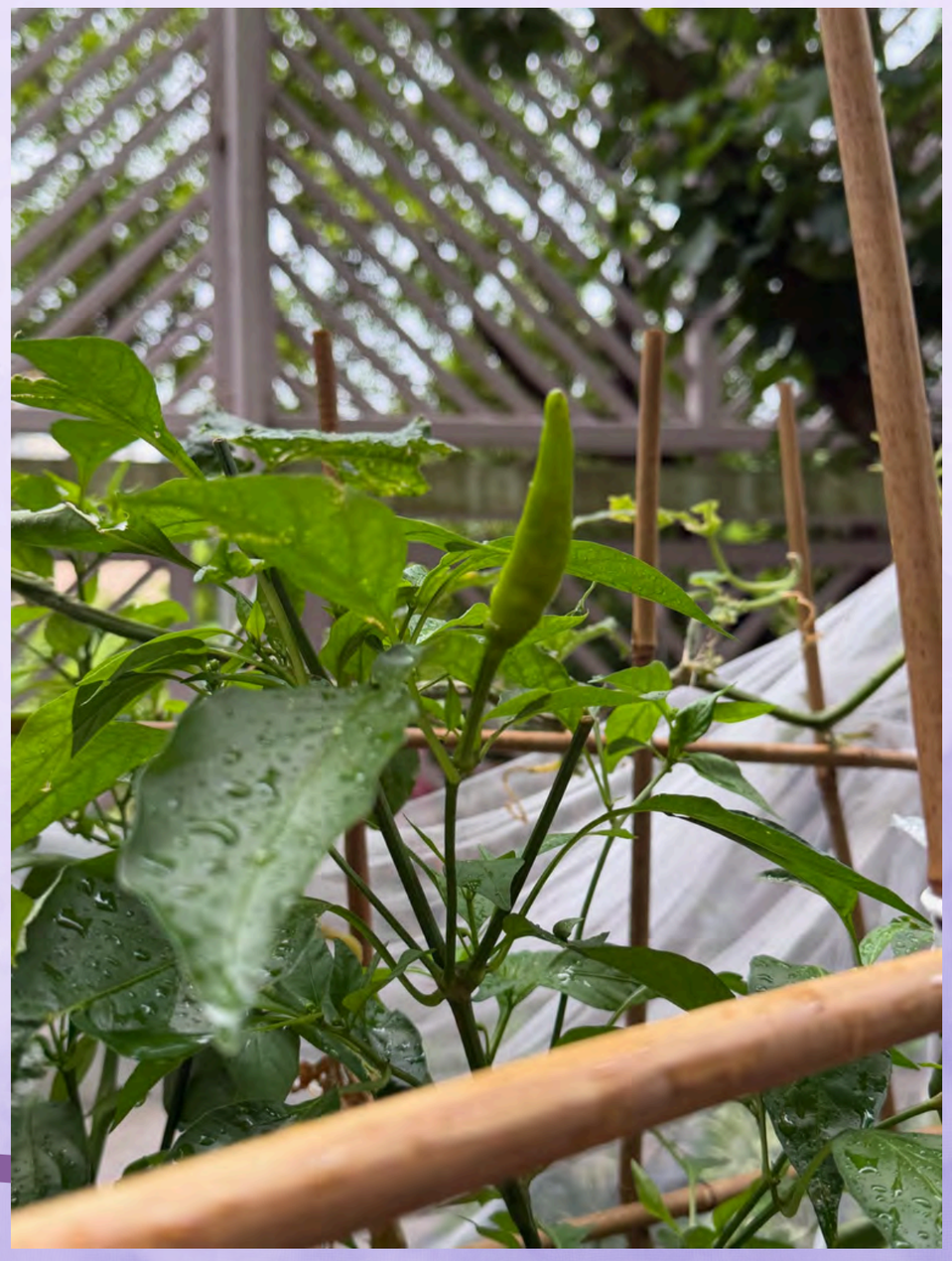
Day 1 10/3



Day 17 27/3

Nutrient Value:

- **Vitamin C (boost immunity and skin health)**
- **Vitamin A (essential for eye health)**
- **Capsaicin (boost metabolism, reduce inflammation and relieve pain)**



Day 107 25/6

Shrunken Leaf Disease

Symptoms:

Top young leaves are shrivelled and deformed

Cause:

Microscopic pest infestation

Treatment with

DE powder (矽藻土)

- Mechanical killing insects (Aphids, Thrips)
- Cause insects to die of dehydration
- Create a “moat” to stop crawling pest from reaching the root

How to use:

Ensure soil surface and plant are dry

Shake the powder directly onto the soil around the base of plant





Bone Meal



Sprinkle the bone meal evenly across the empty soil surface



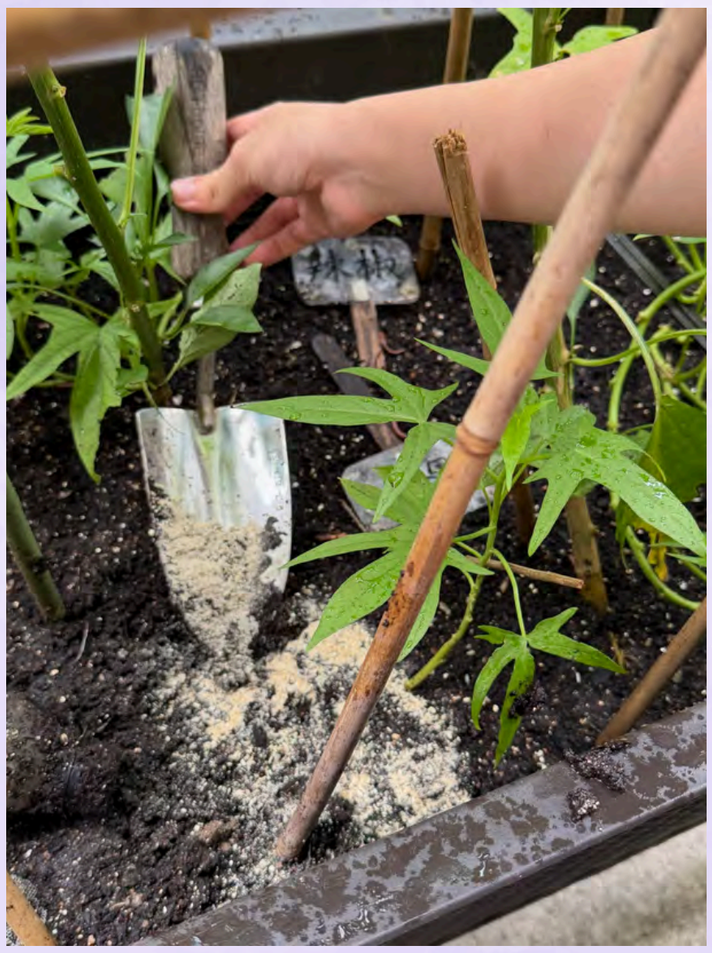
Use shovels to mix the bone meal and soil together



Dig a small hole to transplant the seedlings into soil

Using bone meal on Chilli Peppers







When to apply: The plant starts flowering

Why it helps: The high phosphorus boosts flower and fruit production, while the calcium prevents blossom end rot

Where to scratch: Topsoil around the base

Kale



Day 1 3/3

King of Vegetable

Exceptional nutrient density with low calories

- Minerals, Vitamins
- A single cup of kale = multiple times the daily requirement of Vitamin K1

Potent Cancer-Fighting Compounds

- Combat inflammation and cancer cells

Eye Protection

- Rich in lutein, zeaxanthin to filter blue light and protect vision



Day 43 14/4



Day 51 22/4

Insect Pests



Aphids

Location:
Undersides of leaves
Damage:
Leaves → yellow and curly
Prevention:

- **Blast aphids directly with a strong stream of water**
- **Cut off heavily damaged leaves to prevent spreading**

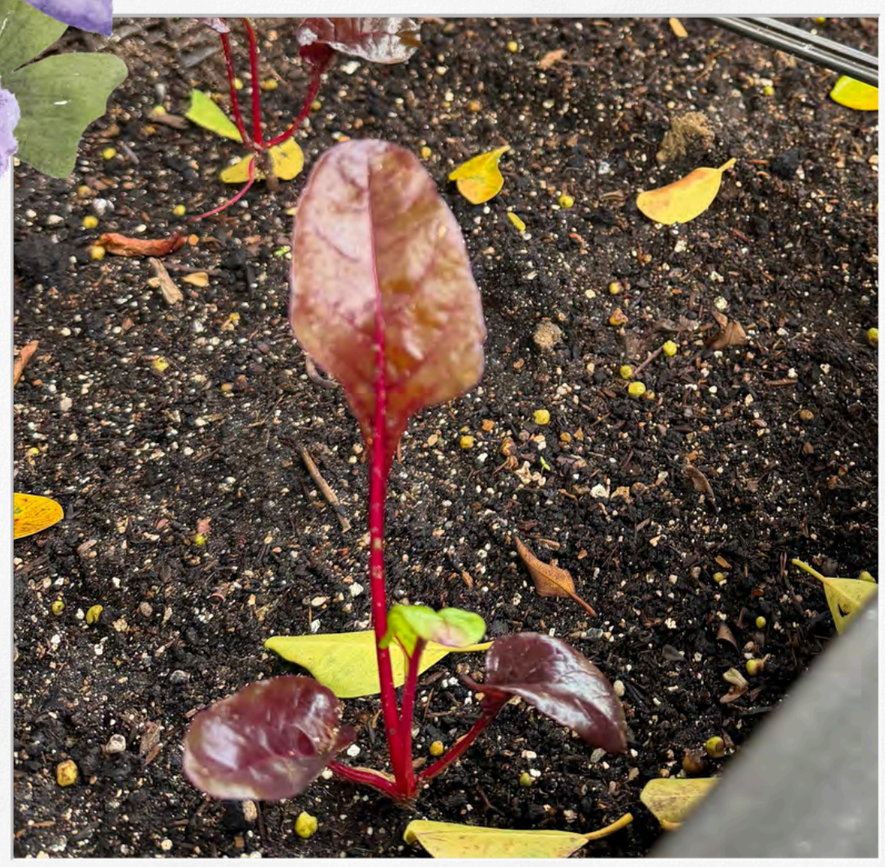


Cabbage Caterpillars

Damage:
Leaves are devoured, leaving holes and net-like skeletons
Prevention:

- **Check regularly and remove eggs and caterpillars**
- **Cut off heavily damaged leaves**
- **Cover with netting to stop butterflies from laying eggs**

Swiss Chard



Day 1 10/3

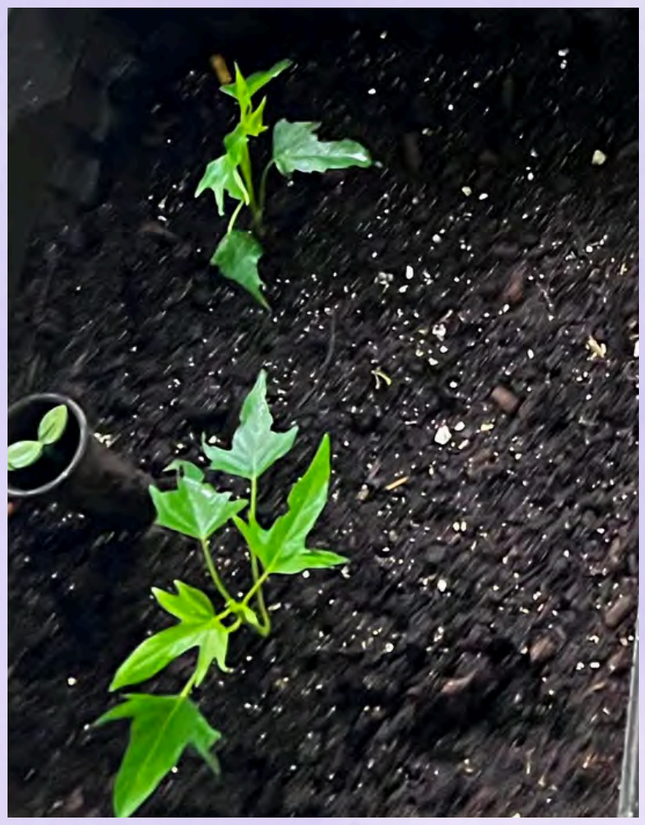


Day 13 23/3



Day 43 22/4

Sweet Potato





45 Days



Why can it propagate so exceptionally fast?

- Propagate by 'slips' rather than seeds or tubers
  → High multiplication rate, easily produce dozens of new and genetically identical

- Powerful Adventitious Root System
  → Vines grow new roots within 2-3 days

Our Feelings and Feedbacks

5D 22 Hui Yuet

Participating in this planting competition has been a deeply rewarding experience that contributed greatly to my personal growth and broadened my horizons. Through this journey, I learned the true value of teamwork, consistency, and attentiveness. I thoroughly enjoyed the process of collaborating with my teammates. This rewarding experience has undoubtedly enriched my school life.

5A 20 Lo Kit Hang

This organic planting experience was really fun and meaningful. From sowing seeds, watering them daily and keeping a close eye on pests every few days. Seeing them slowly sprout and finally being able to harvest what I grew myself gave me a really satisfying feeling. I have also learned to be more patient and responsible. I now understand that good results never come easily, and every little progress needs consistent care and effort.

5D 09 Sin Ho Fung

After 2 months of dedication, the journey of house planting competition finally comes to the end. Putting innumerable efforts and patience, I am glad that my hard work pays off, all of our plants began to blossom. Throughout the trip, I understood patience is key in life, while having commitment can lead me to success in future.

Our Feelings and Feedbacks

5B 11 Chan Chun Yiu

This planting activity allowed me to personally experience the joys and challenges of gardening, and I learned various planting methods and how to build a trellis for cucumbers. Overall, I am very happy to have participated in this activity.

4B 19 Chau Tin Yui

This planting activity brought me precious growth. Tending delicate seedlings cultivated my patience. Cooperating with partners to finish all tasks made me fully understand the great value of teamwork and persistent hard work.

4A 12 Liang Richard

I think I have gained a lot in this planting activity. Whether it is the cooperation with members or the knowledge and fun of planting, it makes me understand the meaning behind it.

Our Feelings and Feedbacks

4C 28 Lo Sze Yi

Participating in the inter-house planting competition was one of the best experiences I' ve ever had with my schoolmates. I truly understand the importance of teamwork. We had to take great care of our plants like watering them regularly and making fertilizer. This will certainly be one of the most precious memories of my school life.

4C 25 Liu Liusa

Growing vegetables taught me how to accept the uncertainties. When plant died or pests suddenly attacked, I know how to calmly solve these problems now. Even if we only received small bunch of vegetables in the end, it's through our joint, day-to-day care, and I'm very proud of this experience!

3D 32 O Wai Yin

I' m delighted that i got the opportunity to join the inter-house planting competition. I' ve learnt new knowledge on how to grow plants and to take care of them. I' m also grateful for the new bonds i made through planting.













END