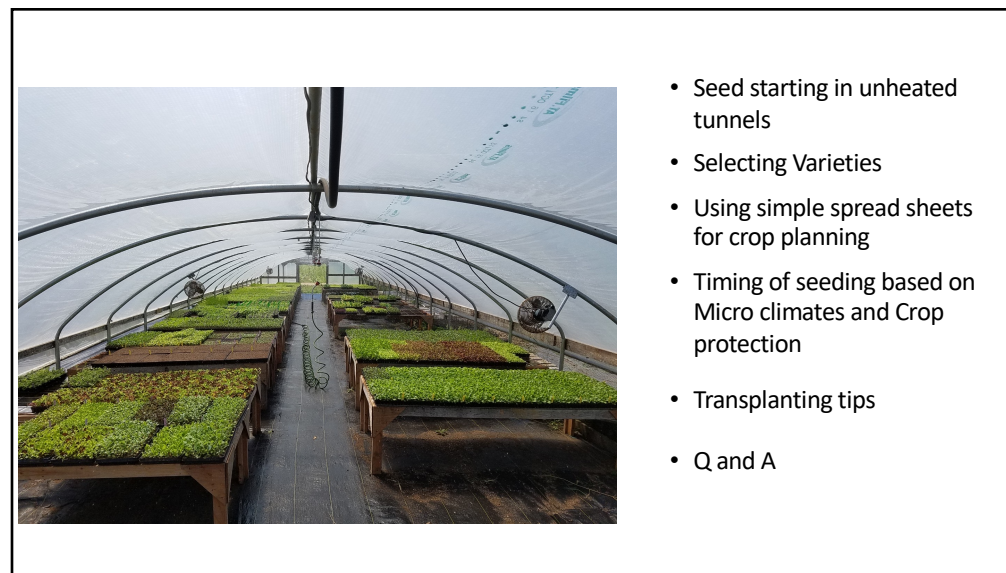




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## Starting seeds in unheated tunnels

- Potting soil selection
  - good drainage critical
  - living soil vs sterile mix



4



**Starting seeds in unheated tunnels**

- Seed starting containers must have drainage
- Choose containers based on crop and time



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**Starting seeds in unheated tunnels**

- **Watering... less is more**
- Water thoroughly but infrequently
- Overwatering can cause many diseases
  - Root rot and damping off fungi

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## Seed Starting in Unheated Tunnels

### Airflow is important

Horizontal Air Flow (HAF) fans, and exhaust fans  
Other types of ventilation, passive or active.



7

## Starting seeds in unheated tunnels

### Options for germination of warm weather crops

- Bottom heat with heat mats or hot water tubes
- Germ Chamber
- Row cover during the night



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**Using Simple Spreadsheets for Crop Planning:**

Outline production goals, make a plan, learn something every season, update plan.



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## Direct Seeding Vs Transplanting

**Benefits of using Transplants**

- climate control for early season advantage
- seedlings get a head start over field weeds
- selection of most vigorous and disease free plants

**Benefits of Direct Seeding crops**

- usually less expensive if you have good weed control systems
- some crops do not like being transplanted

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## Tips for Transplanting Veggie Seedlings

- Harden off if possible (move outside for a couple days before planting)
- If not hardening off then protect them at transplanting time
- Water thoroughly just before transplanting
- Plant just to the top of soil plug (some exceptions)
- Water in as soon as possible
- Some plants REALLY do not like their roots disturbed and some love it.

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