

Spring & Summer Sowing Method

wintersown.org,

Is there Spring and Summer
Sowing?

Yes you can do this, most
certainly.

What you need to do is first
assure that the soil stays moist.
You need a container that has
some depth to it....like an empty
milk jug or two liter soda bottle.
The increased depth of the soil in
ratio to the soil surface will
decrease the amount of moisture
loss through evaporation. Plain
and simply, deeper soil will hold
more moisture because less is
exposed to air. Second, because of
the warmer days, the air
temperature inside the jug will
heat up faster and higher so the
jugs need to be in part shade. More
specifically, they should be in a
location where they will not get
intense midday sun. Third and last,
you will need to add some extra
vents in the top to allow for rapid
transpiration of the warm air
inside the jug. Very important! ~ In
warm weather you need to keep a
close eye on the watering needs of
your seed jugs.

What seeds can I start now?

You can Spring and Summer Sow
the seeds of any perennial or
biennial that says on the back of
the packet "sow after last Spring
frost", or "sow after ground has
warmed", or anything similar to
that. That information might not
be mentioned at all....as long as
you read on the packet any
wording that indicates NO COLD
PERIOD is required for germination
you'll make good choices.

Here's a list of perennials and
biennials you can try with Spring
and Summer Sowing:
Agastache

Asclepius
Aurinia saxatile
Belamcanda
Campanula
Centranthus
Coreopsis
Dianthus
Digitalis
Daylily
Echinacea
Eupatorium
Flax
Gaillardia
Geum
Hibiscus
Hollyhock
Hosta
Kniphofia
Lathyrus
Lunaria
Lupine
Lychnis
Lunaria
Malva
Monarda
Myosotis
Nepeta
Ornamental Grass
Papaver
Penstemon
Phlox
Platycodon
Pyrethrum
Ratibida
Rudbeckia
Salvia
Silene
Shasta daisy
Snapdragon
Verbena
Veronica
Yarrow

The cheery blooms of Spring Sown
annuals will help perk up the garden
during midsummer when some
flowers start to wane and fizzle
out from the heat. Summer Sown
annuals can provide a "punch" of
colorful fresh blossoms to enliven
the autumn garden.

Ageratum
African Daisy

Alyssum /
Balsam/ Impatiens
Candytuft
Calendula
California Poppy
Cardinal Climber
Cleome
Coleus
Cornflower
Cosmos
Four-o-Clocks
Lobelia
Marigold
Melampodium
Morning Glories
Nasturtium
Nicotiana
Nigella
Pansy
Petunia
Phlox (Drummond)
Portulaca
Snapdragon
Stock
Sunflower
Sweet Peas
Tithonia
Viola
Zinnia

When can I transplant my Spring
and Summer Sown seedlings into
the ground?

Let the seeds germinate and when
they have a couple of sets of
leaves they can go right in. You can
put the seedlings into the ground
while they're small. Keep them well
watered for the first few weeks.

If you are planting the seedlings
into an area of direct full sun you
can help them along for a few days
by placing a lawn chair over them
during the midday to shield them
from the brilliant midday sun which
can be very intense; the seedlings
are already acclimatized to the
warm temperatures and longer
days but the brilliant sun can
stress them and may even give
them a bit of sunscald.