

SAV 102 Introduction to Starting Seedlings Workshop Syllabus

Instruction: Dianne Kretschmar, Grenville Farm
Location: 1142 Graham Rd, RR #1, Severn Bridge, POE 1N0
Date: April 10, 2011
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Workshop Introduction: SAV 102 is a four hour introductory workshop in a hoop house setting about starting gardening seedlings. Growing plants from seed is an easy, inexpensive way to get a jump on the short Muskoka growing season. The workshop is developed to answer many commonly asked questions related to starting plants from seed.

Workshop Description: The workshop covers topics of interest to home gardeners and small scale farmers. We will discuss principles of starting seeds including germination and hoop house management using low-cost and low-tech methods. The workshop will touch on these themes:

- Determining spring last frost date
- Schedule for starting seeds
- Selection of varieties
- Germination conditions
- Potting-on in organic soil mixes
- Care of seedlings including light and moisture requirements
- Comparison planting
- Sources of supplies

Workshop Objectives: Information and experience provided by the workshop should enable a participant to:

- Erect a simple hoop house or cold frame
- Start seeds at appropriate times
- Keep seedlings healthy until it is time to plant them in the garden

Workshop Agenda:

- 1.00pm Arrival, networking, orientation and lunch
- 2.00pm Workshop introduction and overview of starting seedlings
- 2.30pm Hands on demonstration of seeding, making soil mixes and potting on basil and tomatoes.
- 4.00pm Review and Questions
- 5.00pm Closing remarks

Workshop Cost: \$30 per person, limit 10 people per course

Wear rubber boots. The farm is muddy in April. Participants will take home a small seed tray and a selection of potted basil and tomato seedlings.