

Grow Guide

B u s h B e a n

Bush beans (*Phaseolus vulgaris*) grow well in Florida in the Spring and Fall. They have very little tolerance to the tropical heat and rain of the summer. These beans do best in vegetable garden conditions with regular water. Beans need full sun. In a 4' foot wide, we seed a double row down the bed with 2-4 inches between each bean. They can be planted at a depth of 1-2 inches. Some of the beans in the mix may have good quality snap beans, which could be noted and those seeds saved separately. All should be good to eat as unripe shelled beans or "shellies" and all dry down well to dry beans. To save dry beans, cut any overhead water to the plants to limit molding. Monitor them closely for maturity. Individual pods can be harvested or whole plants can be hung upside down to dry to completion in a covered area like a garage. Dry pods can be put into a pillowcase and beaten to remove the seeds, which can then be winnowed away from the hulls.

