



UCDAVIS

Plant Breeding Center

How to Care for Your Picnic Day Strawberry Plant

plantbreeding.ucdavis.edu

Thank you for visiting our table in the Plant and Environmental Sciences Courtyard at Picnic Day 2018.

We have compiled a few tips on how to care for your strawberry plant, what to expect in its lifecycle, and what kinds of pests or diseases may affect it.



Camarosa Strawberry Plant Features

- + Camarosa is tolerant to strawberry viruses encountered in California.
- + Camarosa is moderately susceptible to common leaf spot (*Ramularia tulasnei*) and relatively resistant to powdery mildew (*Sphaerotheca macularis*).
- + Camarosa will produce vegetative shoots called “runners,” which will stretch away from the mother plant and, in the right conditions, root and produce a clone plant.



Camarosa Strawberry Planting Tips

- + Plant in full sun; 6-8 hours per day.
- + Plant multiple strawberries 12” apart.
- + Avoid “J-rooting” the plant - dig a deep enough hole that the roots remain straight during planting.
- + Plants prefer good drainage, whether in pots or in the ground.



Strawberry Plant Maintenance

- + Leave bare ground around your plant if you want to let runners root. Runners can be dug up and planted elsewhere once they have developed their roots.
- + Water plants at the base, and avoid wetting the crown and canopy. If water does get on the crown, leaves, flowers, and fruits of the plant, the chance for disease increases on those specific organs. A constantly drenched plant is also likely to collapse.



Flowers and Fruit

- + Pinch off flowers until there are more than 5-6 leaves; otherwise, fruit that develops may be small.
- + Pollination is usually not an issue with modern varieties, but fruit set and uniformity might be improved by rustling the canopy with your hand back and forth vigorously once the plant has flowers.
- + Cut off old, browning leaves or aborted flowers with clean scissors. Clean scissors with Lysol before clipping each plant to reduce spread of disease between plants.



Plant Breeding Resources

UC Davis Plant Breeding Center:

plantbreeding.ucdavis.edu

UC Davis Strawberry Program:

<http://knapp.plantsciences.ucdavis.edu/>

For signs of strawberry plant disease:

<https://bit.ly/2JdqIKi>

Thank you to the UC Davis Strawberry Program, greenhouse staff, and volunteers for providing and expertly caring for the strawberry in your hands!

