

C

The location of your vegetable garden will have a big impact on its productivity and on the types of vegetables that you can grow. When choosing your site, consider climate, topography, exposure, soil conditions, and accessibility.

Climate and topography

P
N
A
C
A
C
A

Exposure

M
A
A
O



T e e a e
be ed b e a d
r er e re
R Ca be , Da e

Soil conditions

G
I
A
L
L
H A

H
H
H



Hea er ca re ree ra
care e are a a
er r c re
R Ca be , Da e

A F
A
I
A
E A C
H G
I
F

Accessibility

L
Q

A
L
Q



Ve ce acce cr ca
are rc a c r er
a era b
Trac K e , Da e

C
A
Q
H



T c arde a a
ec re edc e e
ca ed a e arde e
La a B , Da e

ACTIVITY

Use this report card to assess your site. Mark the green, orange or red square that best describes your site.

GOOD	FAIR	POOR
LOOK OVER THE GARDEN SITE. ARE THERE ANY FEATURES THAT WILL CREATE CHALLENGES (LARGE STONES, BIG TREES, UTILITY LINES, POOLING WATER?)		
N	O	P
DOES THE EXISTING VEGETATION ON THE SITE LOOK HEALTHY?		
H	F	P
IS THE SITE ON A SLOPE? IF SO, WHAT DIRECTION IS THE SLOPE FACING?		
N	N	N
IS THERE A GOOD AND ACCESSIBLE SOURCE OF WATER?		
G	C	N
HOW MUCH SUNLIGHT DOES THE SITE GET DURING THE GROWING MONTHS?		
L	M	S
DIG A PIT 50 CM DEEP. IS IT DIFFICULT TO EXCAVATE THE SOIL (E.G. COMPACTION OR ROCKY)?		
E	M	D
WHAT COLOUR IS THE SOIL NEAR THE SURFACE (DARKER SOIL INDICATES MORE ORGANIC MATTER)?		
D	L	G
DO YOU SEE ANY EARTHWORMS AS YOU DIG?		
L	A	N
FIGURE OUT SOIL TEXTURE USING THE 'FEEL TEST' OR 'JAR TEST' DESCRIBED IN 'SOIL BASICS'.		
L	A	S
HAVE A LOOK AT SOIL STRUCTURE.		
C	C	H
IS THERE A RISK THAT THE SOIL MIGHT BE CONTAMINATED WITH HEAVY METALS OR OTHER TOXICS?		
L	M	H
DOES THE SOIL ANALYSIS REPORT INDICATE APPROPRIATE PH?		
G	F	P
DOES THE SOIL ANALYSIS REPORT INDICATE ADEQUATE LEVELS OF SOIL NUTRIENTS?		
G	F	P
IS THE SITE EASILY ACCESSIBLE?		
G	M	N