**Sweet Potatoes**

**Basic Care**

- Immediately after planting the slips, sweet potatoes will need frequent, even watering.
- Watering should remain regular throughout the growing season to ensure a cool, dark environment.
- After curing, they should be stored in a cooler place until needed.
- Sweet potatoes need to cure in a warm area (80°F) for a week or two to gain their full sweetness.

**Growing**

- Sweet potatoes should be ready to harvest in 90-120 days.
- The vines will begin to die back as they approach harvest.
- Harvest before the first frost to avoid losing the crop.
- When harvesting, cut back to the vines so you can more easily remove sweet potatoes. Just leave a little bit of the plant, and you can more easily remove the soil around the sweet potatoes.

**Harvesting**

- Sweet potatoes need to cure in a warmer area for a week or two to gain their full sweetness.
- Store them in a cool, dark environment (like a pantry) until ready to use. Without proper storage, they can lose some of their sweetness.
- Sweet potatoes can last for many months and are delicious year-round.

**Insect Pests**

- Sweet potatoes need a long growing season with lots of sun.
- Full exposure 6-8 hours a day is needed.
- Sweet potatoes are a tropical plant and need a long growing season in the warmest part of the year.

**Weeds**

- Weeds compete with the sweet potatoes for nutrients and water.
- It's hard to weed around sweet potatoes because they spread out and cover the ground.
- Mulching around the plants can help reduce weed growth.

**Sun**

- Sweet potatoes need full sun exposure 6-8 hours a day.

**Common Problems**

- It's hard to weed around sweet potatoes because they spread out and cover the ground.
- Mulching around the plants can help reduce weed growth.
- Sweet potatoes need a long growing season with lots of sun.
- Full exposure 6-8 hours a day is needed.
- Sweet potatoes are a tropical plant and need a long growing season in the warmest part of the year.