

Garden Journal

Name: _____

Garden Site: _____

Year: _____



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Instructions & Notes

I. Map of Beds & Plantings

Instructions:

- Choose a scale (for example, *1 square = 1 foot*). Draw a scale map of your garden beds. Label each bed with a number or other code.
- Write which crop(s) were planted in each bed. For example: *Spring – Lettuce, Summer – Tomatoes, Fall – Rye/Winter Pea cover crop*

Uses:

- When you submit soil samples, use the label for each bed as the ‘Sample ID.’ This will help you match soil test results to the right bed.
- Use the record of where crops were planted to rotate to different plant families the following year.

Summary of Crops, Planting Dates, & Harvest Dates

Instructions:

- Record what crops you plant, the date, and whether you planted seeds or transplants.
- Look up the estimated “Days to Harvest” from the seed packet or a planting calendar (for example, <http://go.ncsu.edu/VegGuidePiedmont>).
- Estimate the first harvest dates by adding the ‘Estimated Days to Harvest’ to your planting dates.
- Record the first and last dates that you actually harvest from each crop.
- Record any notes about how well (or how poorly!) each crop grew and produced.

Uses:

- Estimating when crops will mature tells you when to check if produce is ready. This will ensure that you harvest the crop at peak eating quality.
- Records of actual planting and harvesting dates help you adjust your planting schedule and crop rotation plans in future years.
- Notes on crops and varieties can help you decide whether to plant the same ones next year, or whether you want to look for others (for example, varieties that are more disease-resistant, etc.).

Soil Tests & Management

Instructions: For each bed:

- Looking at your soil test reports: Note the pH, Phosphorous Index (P-I), Potassium Index (K-1), and % Humic Matter (%HM) for each bed. Compare these to the ideal values (at the top of the table).
- Decide what soil amendments or fertilizers you need to apply, using the Soil Test Interpretation Worksheet at: <http://go.ncsu.edu/FCGHealthySoil>. Record what soil amendments and fertilizers you apply, the date, and how much. There is space to note 4 different amendments per bed.

Uses:

- Recording your soil test results will help you keep track of whether your pH, nutrient contents, and organic matter contents are ideal for crop growth, and if not, what you still need to apply.
- You can also track changes in soil health over time as you add soil amendments and implement other soil-building practices such as cover cropping.

Harvest Log

Instructions: Note each crop that you plant in the left column. As you harvest and weigh produce, record the date at the top of the table, and the weight of each type of produce (in pounds) beneath the date and in the row corresponding to each crop.

Uses: This information can help you identify which crops and varieties are most productive in your garden, and which may not be good choices for future plantings.

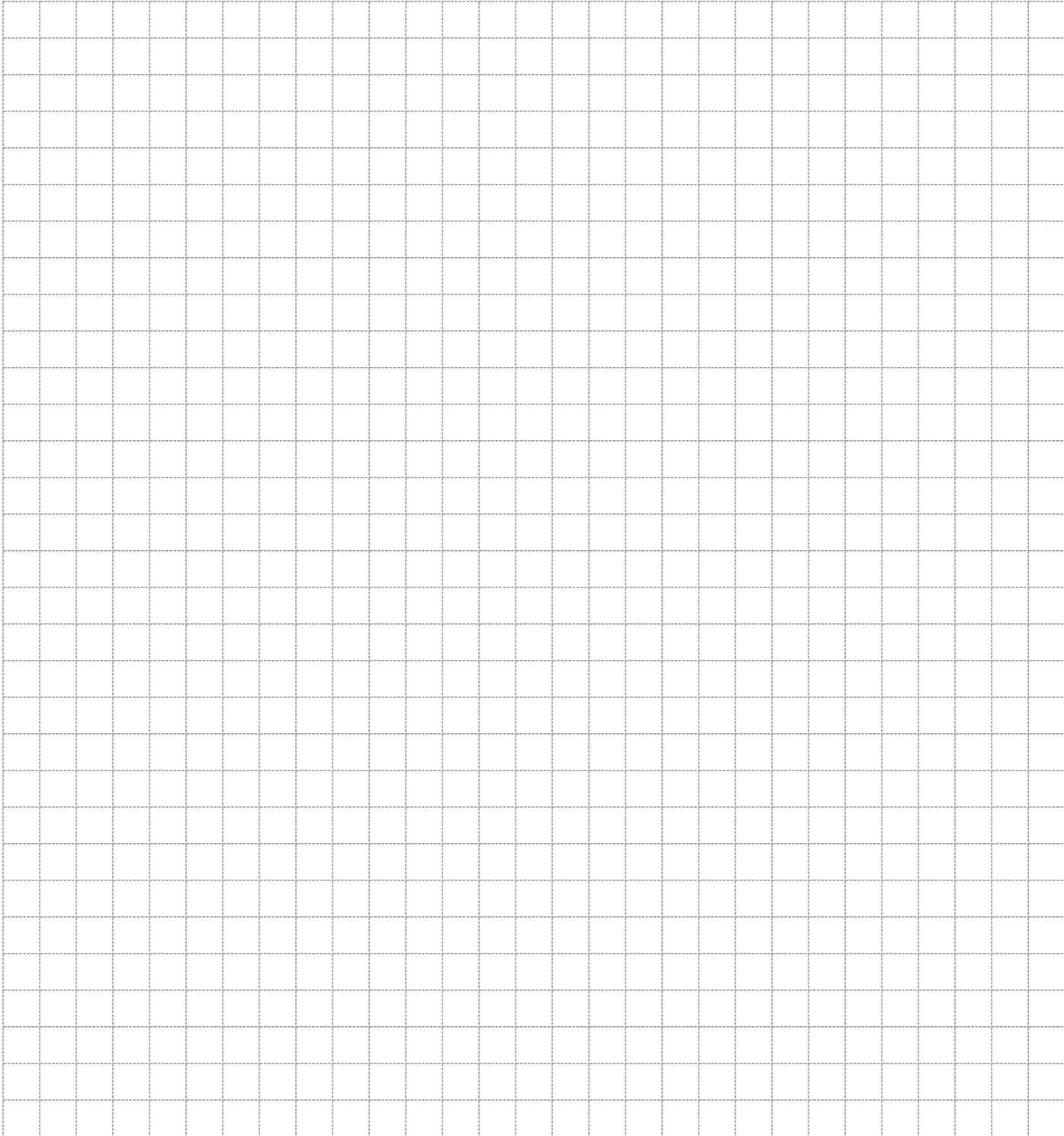
Log of Tasks & Observations

Instructions: Whenever you work in your garden, make notes about the weather, gardening tasks completed (for example, thinning, hilling, fertilizing, pruning, trellising, etc.), crops harvested, any pest or disease problems and actions taken, and other observations.

Uses: These notes can help you plan your garden work (this year and in future years!) and monitor if your practices to address pest, disease, and weed problems are effective.

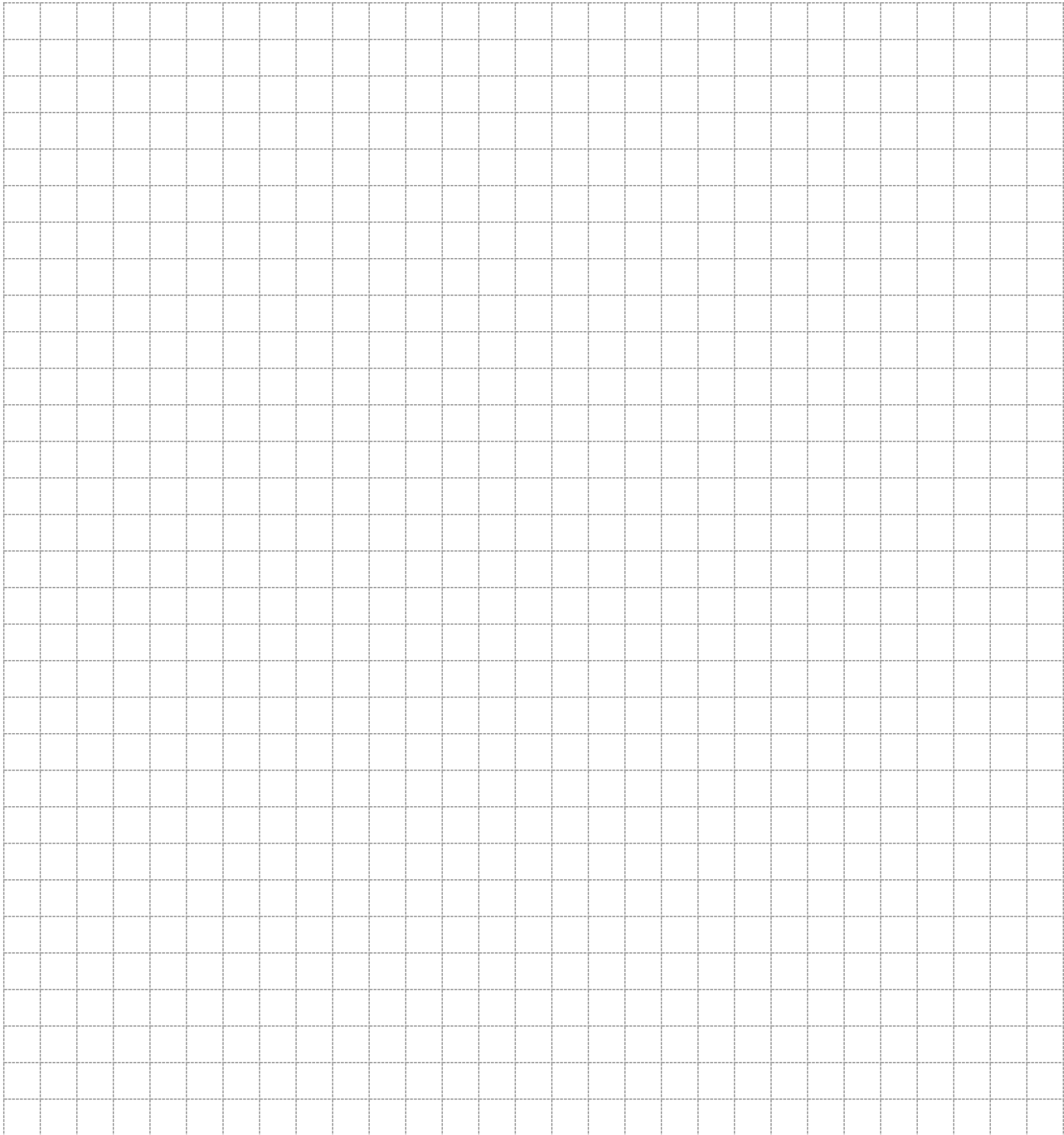
I. Map of Beds & Plantings (Page __ of __)

Scale: 1 square = _____ ft



I. Map of Beds & Plantings (Page __ of __)

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II. Summary : Crops, Planting Dates, & Harvest Dates (Page __ of __)

Bed #	Crop	Variety	Plant Date/ Method (S=seed, T=transplant)	Estimated Days to Harvest	Estimated First Harvest Date	First Harvest Date	Last Harvest Date	Notes
	<i>Ex: Beans</i>	<i>Bush Blue Lake</i>	<i>May 13 (S)</i>	<i>58</i>	<i>June 26</i>	<i>June 30</i>	<i>July 24</i>	<i>Productive at first, then got disease</i>

III. Soil Tests & Management (Page __ of __)

Bed #	Soil Test Date	pH	P-I	K-I	%HM	Date & Amendments or Fertilizers Added	Amount Added
<i>Reference (ideal values)</i>	---	6.2-6.7	50-70	50-70	>> 1%	---	---

III. Soil Tests & Management (Page __ of __)

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<i>Reference (ideal values)</i>	---	6.2-6.7	50-70	50-70	>> 1%	---	---

V. Log of Tasks & Observations (Page __ of __)

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Weather (<i>temperature & rainfall</i>):	
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