



**Sow:** Early May indoors or in a heated propagator.

**Soil:** Plenty of well-rotted manure before planting. Can grow on a compost heap.

**Sun:** The sunniest part of the garden.

**Grow:** Plant out in final position, 2ft apart, once frosts have passed. Feed once a fortnight with comfrey tea.

**Harvest:** When the fruit is around 4-6 inches long. You can also eat the male flowers (these do not have baby courgettes at their base).

**Problems:** Protect plants from slugs with cloches until stems and leaves are too tough to eat. Powdery mildew may weaken plant towards end of a dry season.

For more advice on growing and cooking courgettes, visit the Stylish Gardening Blog: [fennelandfern.co.uk](http://fennelandfern.co.uk)

# courgettes.