

# GROW YOUR OWN HOPS



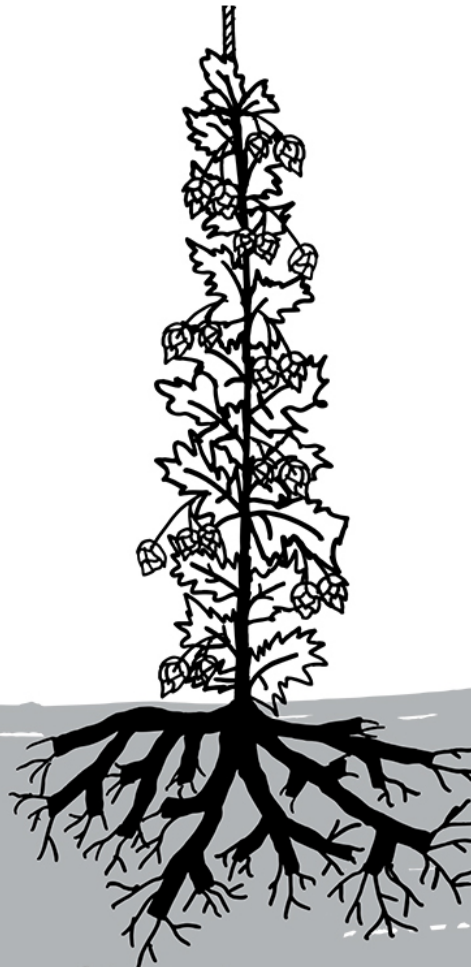
## FEB. to APR.

Once the risk of frost is low, plant hop Rhizomes (roots cut from a mature female hop plant) in sandy, well-drained soil. Cover with 2 inches of soil. Water heavily, wait two days, then water lightly frequently. When hop vines (known as bines) reach 1 inch, train 2-3 up a pole, trellis, or sturdy twine. Trim away weaker roots.



## MAY to JUL.

Bines can grow up to 6 inches per day. Trim away shoots at base of supports. Pickle or add to risotto or eggs for an asparagus-like side.



## AUG. to OCT.

Damp, soft cones are not ready to be picked. Light, papery cones are ready to go. Hops must be dried before brewing. Spread hops out and keep air circulating around them.

They are ready when they are springy and powdery. Drying takes approximately 3 days. Compress hops into a Zip-top bag and freeze until ready to brew.



## NOV. to JAN.

Winter is a time of dormancy for hops and hop grower alike. Sit back, relax, and enjoy the fruits of your labor, preferably with friends.

\* Don't expect many flowers the first year as your hops establish strong roots. Flowers will be much more healthy and fragrant in year 2 and beyond.