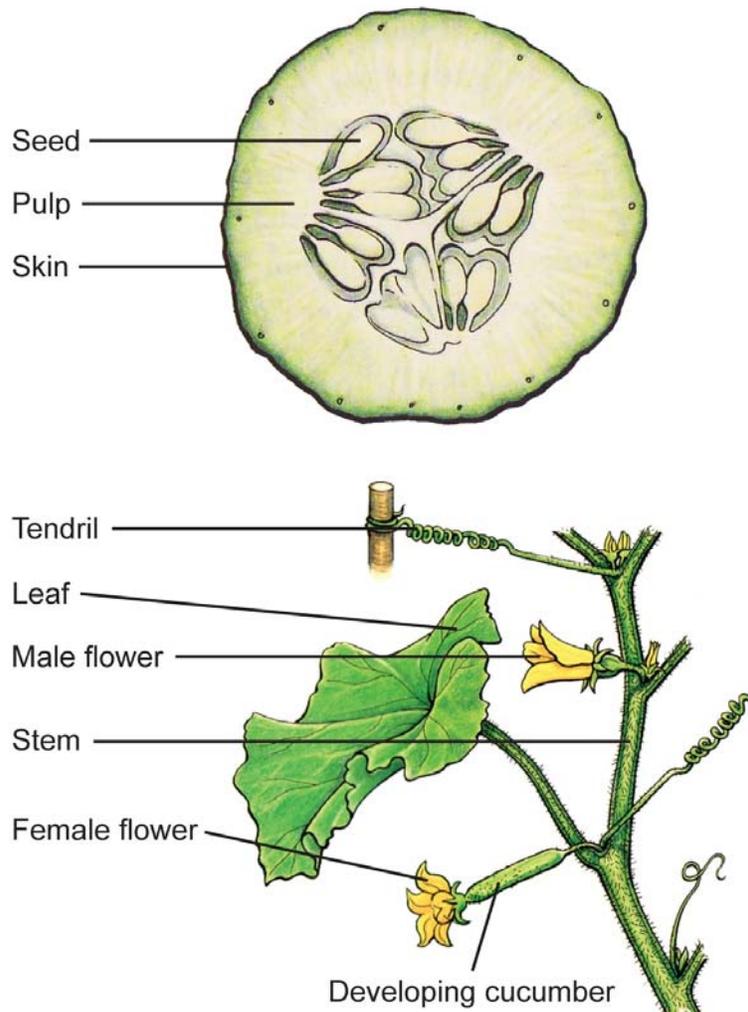


Cucumbers



Source: *Cool as a Cucumber, Hot as a Pepper*, Meredith Sayles Hughes, Lerner Books, 1999.

How Do Cucumbers Grow?

The cucumber is a warm weather, tropical plant. Outdoor cucumber plants are *monoecious* (meaning there are both stamens and pistils in separate flowers on the same plant) and produce 10-20 male flowers for every one female flower. When the female flower is pollinated, the cucumbers have seeds. Greenhouse cucumbers are generally *parthenocarpic*. This means the plants only have female flowers (gynoecious), which do not require pollination; therefore, the cucumbers are seedless.

Climate/Growing temperature	65-75 F
Soil Type and pH level	Loamy and well-draining, 6.0-7.0 pH
Water	1" per week in spring, 2" in summer
Sun	Full
When to plant	Late spring or early summer when the danger of frost is past.
How to Plant	A series of small hills spaced about 3 feet apart, with about four seeds per hill. Alternatively, in a traditional row with about three seeds planted per hole (about an inch deep) every 3 feet.
Days to Harvest	60 - 70 days
How Harvested	2 - 3 times a week

For more information, visit:

http://vric.ucdavis.edu/main/veg_info.htm

<http://urbanext.illinois.edu/veggies/cucumber1.html>

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