

WHICH PLASTIC DO I USE?

A GUIDE TO PLASTICS FOR EDIBLE GARDEN PROJECTS

USE THE NUMBER: On the bottom of the plastic should be a number, 1 through 7.

Here's which plastics you can use, and the ones that you should avoid:

"UNDESIREABLE" PLASTICS



PVC, like plumbing pipes and food wraps. When this material gets hot, it leaches chemicals that interfere with human hormones.



Styrofoam leaches toxic chemicals when heated. Avoid heating food in a microwave with it.



Avoid all other plastics

"FOOD-FAVORABLE" PLASTICS

Clear plastic bottles (soda, water, etc.), formally known as PET. Material is considered safe for planters.



Opaque plastic jugs (milk jugs, butter tubs, etc.) known as HDPE. This material is considered safe.



Grocery bags and squeeze bottles, known as LDPE. This material is considered safe.



Wide necked milky white containers (like yogurt containers). Formal name is Polypropylene. This is currently considered safe.



NOTE: #1 plastics have a tendency to colonize bacteria on the surface. Best to wash them between uses if used for drinking.

Keep in mind the last use of the plastic: *Was it used for something you wouldn't eat or drink?* Avoid containers that have previously been used for non-ingestible products.