







Snake Bean Grafting

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Snake beans can be grafted onto cowpea cv. Iron rootstock to improve their productive lifespan in soil affected by fusarium wilt and nematodes.

		
<p>Step 1: Plant the snake bean and cowpea seeds at the same time and grow for approximately 20 days.</p>	<p>Step 2: At the two leaf stage the plants are ready to graft. Place the cowpea tray in a water bath.</p>	<p>Step 3: Remove the top of the cowpea, above the cotyledons with sharp scissors.</p>
		
<p>Step 4: Ensure all cutting tools are sterilized in a 50:50 solution of methylated spirits and water.</p>	<p>Step 5: Silicon grafting clips of various sizes are available from your reseller.</p>	<p>Step 6: Cut the top of the snake bean at the right thickness for the cowpea rootstock.</p>

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Step 7:
Trim the leaves to reduce the weight of the snake bean scion.



Step 8:
Make a 45° "whip" cut on the snake bean scion.



Step 9:
Place the snake bean scion into the silicon clip.



Step 10:
Make a 45° "whip" cut in cowpea rootstock.
** Note: thumbs and fingers are protected by elastoplast bandages.*



Step 11:
Slide clip with the snake bean scion down over the cowpea rootstock.



Step 12:
Ensure the cut surfaces line up and join. Keep the grafted plants moist.