



THE
UNIVERSITY
OF RHODE ISLAND
COOPERATIVE
EXTENSION



Sponsored by Northeast SARE
and the University of Rhode Island



SAFFRON
Crocus sativus

Saffron Production

Plant corms 6-8" deep in groups or rows, and 2-3" apart.

Protect the area with a fence to keep out rabbits, deer, and rodents. Hardware cloth works well!

Water after planting if the soil is dry. In the Northeast, saffron generally does not need watering.

Fact sheet and videos about growing saffron can be found here:



Saffron begins flowering 40-50 days after planting.

Harvest the flowers daily pinching off the buds or the flowers.

The flower stigmas should be removed and dried daily. You can find Processing Saffron on the SARE webpage linked to the QR code!

Dry the stigmas in an oven or food dehydrator. When dried, the filaments are very light and breakable. Store them in an air-tight container and use in your favorite recipes!

Saffron leaves will continue to grow through the winter and die in May. Plants remain dormant all summer until late September when the new daughter corms will sprout.