



by Bernadell Larson, HCMG

## TRIANGULAR NET GARDEN PLAN

Want to plant a flower or vegetable garden, but are limited on space? Instead of planting seeds or transplants in a straight line in your bed, use a triangular spacing concept. (See picture below.)

If you plant four rows of seeds 6 inches apart and use the typical rectangular spacing concept, you will need a bed that is 18 inches wide. However, if you plant four rows of seeds 6 inches apart and use the triangular spacing concept, you will only need a bed that is 15 inches wide. Your plants will not be crowded and you have the same amount of air circulating between and among your plants. Another benefit is that your plantings will appear denser because, visually, you will see more green instead of open space between the plants.

This triangular net pattern works on orchards also. In drylands, orchardists plant their trees in a triangular net pattern to collect rain and runoff. Fruit trees can be planted in small depressions, and the basins are connected by a network of shallow trenches. The rain and runoff falling over a large area are collected by the trench network and delivered to the base of the trees.

A triangular net pattern allows more seeds, plants, trees to be planted in the same space than the conventional rectangular pattern.

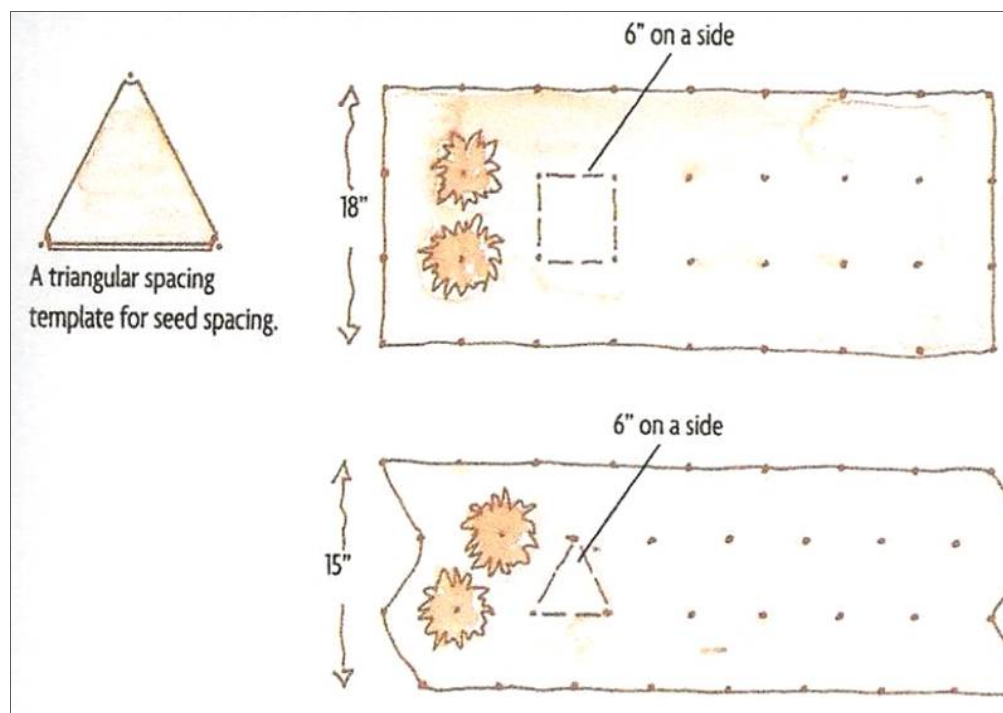


Illustration courtesy of **Gaia's Garden: A Guide to Home-Scale Permaculture** by Toby Hemenway