

THE AMERICAN TURMERIC COMPANY, INC.

FARM



NEWS

HOW WE GOT STARTED

We were so excited to start growing turmeric in South Georgia. But, frankly, we did not know if it would really grow here since it is considered a “hot weather” crop. But if you have ever been here in the summer time, there is plenty of “hot weather” so we decided to give it a try.

The first thing we did was to put every rhizome (or root) in a small, 1” plastic pot with some dirt we had gotten from our woods. After we had done several hundred, we made a “hot house” in our garage by hanging sheets of plastic from the ceiling and dragging in all our metal shelves. We placed the pots on the shelves, put heating cables

under them and gave them a little water. Then we waited and waited and waited some more. This was around the middle of February.



After two long months, NOTHING had happened. So we moved our little babies outside and put the pots on boards in the sun. It was now almost TWO months since we had started. And we checked them faithfully EVERY DAY!! FINALLY – around the middle of May – little green shoots beginning to emerge. Were we excited? Heck yes!! And every day we would move the pots with sprouts up to the front of boards so we could easily see which ones were newly sprouted. At long last, the sprouted ones out-

numbered the non-sprouted ones and we were just in turmeric heaven.

We nursed those babies like the proud new mothers that we were. And before long they had outgrown their little 1” pots and we had to transfer them to larger 4” pots. Finally, the day came to move



our fledgling plants out of their snug little homes and into their new home – the ground.



By now it was June and it was HOT. Turmeric loved it but we were wilting. But we got out early every morning and planted them by hand. And soon they started growing.

And because we love music, Ed managed to hook up speakers to our little garden tractor and tied a USB port into the electrical system to power his iPhone and the speakers. Before long, Beethoven’s 5th, and 9th, and 4th and 7th were booming out across our field.

How thrilling it is to see the leaves emerge – all furled up at first and then – in all of their might and majesty – slowly began to unfurl. We have seen this happen a thousand times now and we still marvel at it.

