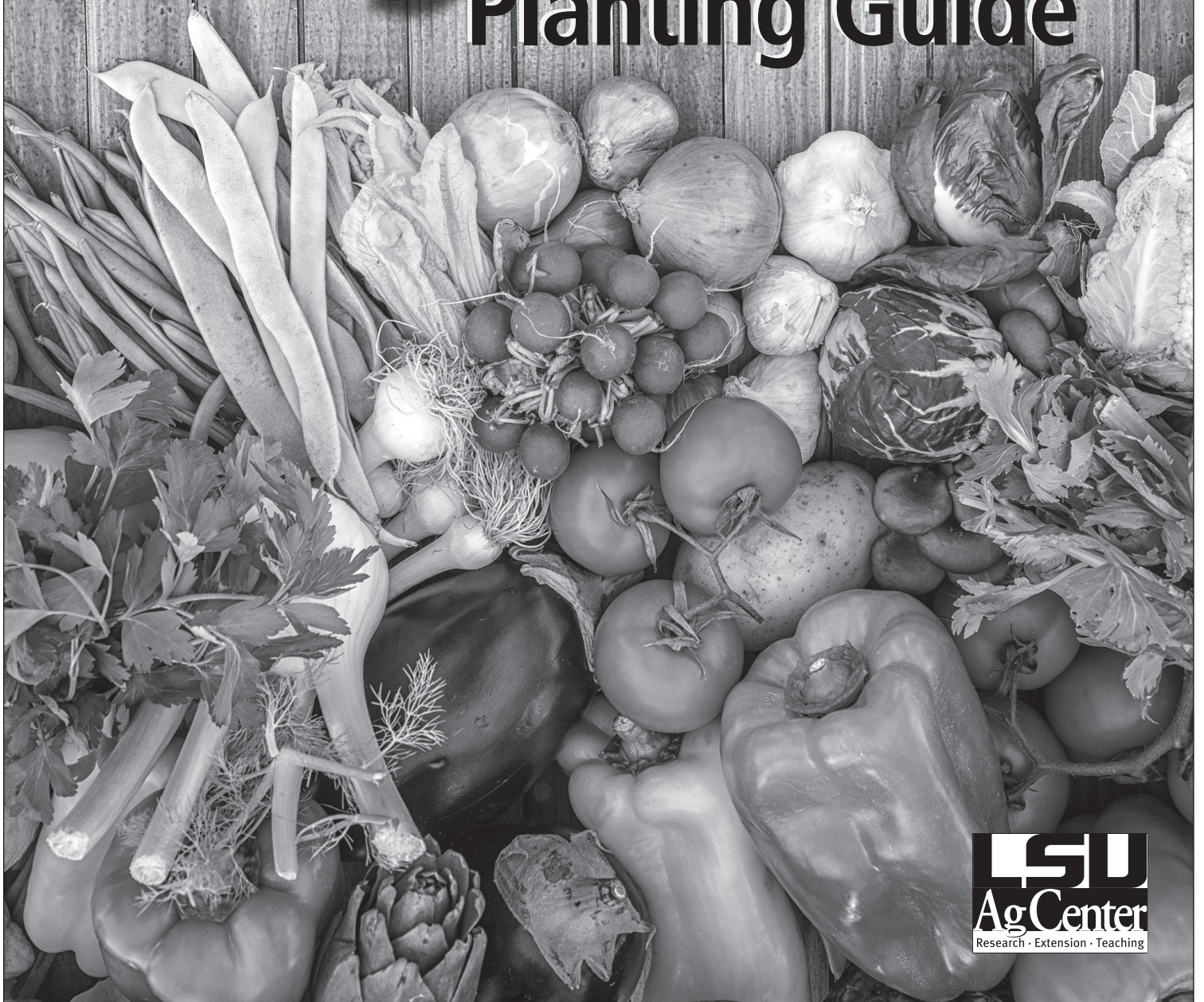


# Louisiana Vegetable Planting Guide



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Producing vegetables is a favorite hobby for many people. Homegrown vegetables have better flavor because they are harvested closer to their peak ripeness, which enables the production of more of their natural sugars.

Plus, there is complete joy in watching a small seed develop into a delicious treat!

Gardening provides a means of exercise, recreation and therapy, as well as opportunities for many to experience nature. Statements such as "Let me show you my garden!" or "I grew that!" give a sense of self-satisfaction.

Home vegetable gardens range in size from a single potted plant to large gardens. Make your garden the size that will meet your needs without becoming a burden. Remember, we can plant and harvest 12 months a year, and some of those are really hot and some are cold, so don't overdo it!

Plan ahead. Locate the garden in a sunny area. Six to eight hours of sunlight each day is preferred. Fruit-bearing crops, such as tomatoes, peppers and squash, need full sunlight for best production. Otherwise, too much shade results in very little production for those crops. If you only have shady spots to garden in, leafy vegetables such as lettuce, broccoli and cabbage will tolerate more shade than fruit-bearing crops.

In Louisiana, vegetables can be planted year-round. As soon as one crop finishes bearing, pull it

out, rework the rows and plant something else. For example, after harvesting Irish potatoes in May or June, rework the area and plant peas, okra or sweet potatoes. Successive plantings made a week or two apart provide a continuous fresh supply of bush snap beans, peas, greens and other certain vegetables. Also, planting early, midseason and late-maturing varieties at the same time will extend your harvest.

This publication should be used as a guide to growing a successful Louisiana garden. The information was developed after considerable research and practical experience. The comments about each item in the following tables may help you better understand the cultivation requirements of vegetables. But please remember, it is just a guide. Always pay attention to local forecasts as those will help you decide to plant at suggested dates or maybe wait a bit if the weather is not acting in a predictable manner.

**Planting Dates** – We have included a table that has columns for both north Louisiana and south Louisiana gardeners. Those living in central Louisiana will do best if they defer to north Louisiana planting dates for spring vegetable crops, but they can use dates from either north or south Louisiana for fall crops.

Generally, with spring vegetables, the first planting should be made after the danger of frost is over (March 15 for south Louisiana/April 1 for central/north Louisiana). Figure 1 is the most recent Plant Hardiness

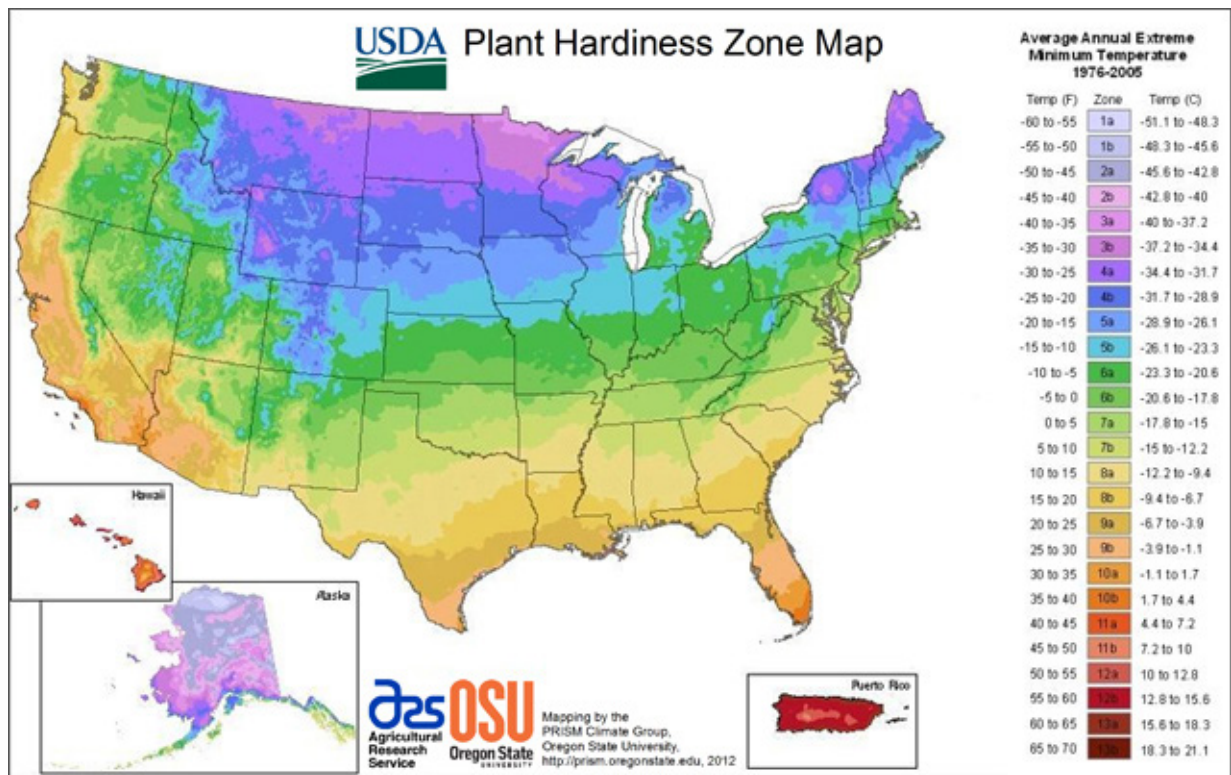


Figure 1

Zone map released by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). It shows that Louisiana comprises four zones: 10a, 9b, 9a, 8b and 8a. These zones represent annual average minimum temperatures.

**Seeds/Plants per 100 Feet of Row** – The amount of seeds (or the number of plants) given is the minimum amount required to plant a 100-foot row.

**Depth to Plant Seeds** – This will depend on the seed size and soil type. Small-seeded crops are planted shallower, and crops with larger seeds are planted deeper.

Heavy (clay) soils require a shallower depth of planting than do lighter (sandy) soils. This is because clay soils tend to form a crust. If irrigation water is not available and the soil is dry, your seeds may have to be planted a little deeper than normal. Generally speaking, most seeds should be planted two to three times as deep as they are wide.

**Space Between Plants** – Correct spacing between and within rows is important to allow for proper growth, cultivation and efficient use of space. It is also important to follow the recommended spacing because planting too close can be more enticing to insects and enables diseases to spread easier between plants. Additionally, planting too closely will result in poor,

weak growth and lower yields. It is a common practice to sow seeds thickly and then thin to the proper spacing. Allow for unplanted rows between watermelon, pumpkin and cantaloupe plantings. In the home garden, you can plant on every other row and space these plants 4-6 feet apart.

For intensive culture or “wide row” gardening, use the larger “in row” spacing and allow enough room between rows so that when the plants are mature, they will barely be touching those in the neighboring row. Remember that yield, quality and pest control normally will be superior if plants are given plenty of room to grow.

**Days Until Harvest** – The number of days from planting until harvest depends on the variety selected, the seasonal temperatures, seasonal rainfall, cultural practices and whether the crop was direct-seeded or transplanted. The number of days indicated in these charts are average ranges that can be expected.

For the gardener who is interested in the detailed culture of a certain crop, [gardening tips for these crops are available on the LSU AgCenter website \(https://bit.ly/3dqe3cn\)](https://bit.ly/3dqe3cn).

## Cultural Recommendations

Crop	South LA Planting Dates (Month/Day)	South LA Planting Dates (Month/Day)	North LA Planting Dates (Month/Day)	North LA Planting Dates (Month/Day)	Depth to Plant Seeds	Space Between Plants	Days Until Harvest
	SPRING	FALL	SPRING	FALL			
Beans, snap, bush Direct-seed	2/15-5/15	9/1- 10/1	3/15 -5/15	9/1-10/1	1/2 inch	2-3 inches	48-55
Beans, snap, pole Direct-seed	2/15-5/15	8/10- 8/31	3/15-5/15	9/1-10/1	1/2 inch	12 inches	60-66
Beans, lima, bush Direct-seed	3/1-5/30	8/1-9/1	4/1 – 5/30	8/1-9/1	1/2 inch	3-4 inches	60-67
Beans, lima, pole Direct-seed	3/1-5/30	8/1-9/1	4/1 – 5/30	8/1-9/1	1/2 inch	12 inches	70-90
Beets Direct-seed	1/15-3/15	8/15 -11/15	2/1-3/31	9/15-11/15	1/4 inch	2-4 inches	55-60
Broccoli Plants	1/15-3/15	8/1-10/31	1/15-3/15	8/1-10/31	1/8 inch	18-24 inches	50-90*
Brussels sprouts plants	—	8/15-10/31	-----	8/15-10/ 15	1/8 inch	12-18 inches	90*
Cabbage Plants	1/15-3/15	8/15-11/30	1/15-3/15	8/1 – 11/30	1/8 inch	12-18 inches	50-75*
Cabbage, Chinese Plants	1/15-3/15	8/1-11/1	1/15-3/15	8/1 – 11/1	1/4 inch	12 inches	40-70*
Cantaloupes Direct-seed or plants	3/15-6/30	7/1-8/15	4/1-6/30	7/1-7/31	1/4 inch	18-36 inches	80-85
Carrots Direct-seed	1/15-3/15	8/15 -11/15	1/15-4/1	8/15-10/15	1/8 inch	1-2 inches	70-75

Crop	South LA Planting Dates	South LA Planting Dates	North LA Planting Dates	North LA Planting Dates	Depth to Plant Seeds	Space Between Plants	Days Until Harvest
	(Month/Day)	(Month/Day)	(Month/Day)	(Month/Day)			
	SPRING	FALL	SPRING	FALL			
Cauliflower Plants	1/15-2/15	7/1-10/15	2/1-3/15	7/15-10/31	1/8 inch	18-24 inches	55-65*
Celery Plants	1/15-2/15	8/10-9/25	3/1- 4/15	9/1-10/15	1/8 inch	6-8 inches	60-120*
Chard, Swiss Plants	1/15-5/1	8/15-10/30	1/15-5/1	8/15-10/15	1/4 inch	6-8 inches	45-55
Collards Direct-seed	1/15-3/15	7/15-10/31	1/15-3/15	7/15-10/31	1/8 inch	6-12 inches	75
Corn, sweet Direct-seed	2/15-5/1	—	3/1-5/15	-----	1/2 inch	10-12 inches	69-92
Cucumbers Direct-seed or plants	3/1-5/15	8/1-9/15	4/1-5/15	7/15-8/31	1/4 inch	12-18 inches	50-65
Eggplants Plants	3/15-5/15	6/15-8/30	4/1-5/15	7/1-8/15	—	18-36 inches	80-85*
Garlic Plant cloves	—	9/1 -11/30	-----	9/1-11/30	1 inch	4-6 inches	210
Greens (mustard and turnip) Direct-seed	2/1-3/15	7/15-11/10	2/1-3/30	7/15-10/31	1/8 inch	1-2 inches	35-50
Kale Direct-seed or plants	2/1-3/15	7/15-11/15	2/1-3/15	7/15-10/31		6-12 inches	50-70
Kohlrabi Plants	1/1-3/30	8/15-10/30	2/1-3/15	7/15-10/31	1/8 inch	6 inches	55-75
Lettuce Direct-seed or plants	1/15-3/15	9/15- 11/15	1/15-3/15	9/15-10/30	1/8 inch	4-12 inches	45-80
Okra Direct-seed or plants	3/15-6/30	7/1-9/1	4/1-6/30	7/1-8/15	1/2 inch	8-12 inches	60
Onions, bulb Plant sets	12/15-1/31	—	1/31-3/1	-----	1 inch	4-6 inches	120-150
Peanuts Direct-seed	4/1-6/15	—	4/1-6/15	-----	1 inch	4-8 inches	110-120
Peas, English Direct-seed	11/15-2/1	9/1-9/15	11/15-2/1	9/1-9/15	1/2 inch	2-3 inches	60-70
Peas, Southern Direct-seed	4/1-6/30	7/15-8/15	4/15-7/31	7/1-7/31	1/2 inch	4-6 inches	70-80
Peppers, hot plants	3/15-6/30	—	4/1-6/15	-----	—	12-18 inches	70-80*
Peppers, bell Plants	3/15-5/15	6/15-8/15	4/1-5/30	6/15-7/31	—	12-18 inches	60-80*
Potatoes, Irish Potato pieces	1/20-3/10	7/1-9/15	2/15-3/10	7/15-9/1	4 inches	9-12 inches	90-120
Potatoes, sweet Sets	4/15-6/30	—	5/1-6/30	-----	—	12 inches	90-120*

Crop	South LA Planting Dates (Month/Day)	South LA Planting Dates (Month/Day)	North LA Planting Dates (Month/Day)	North LA Planting Dates (Month/Day)	Depth to Plant Seeds	Space Between Plants	Days Until Harvest
	SPRING	FALL	SPRING	FALL			
Pumpkins Direct-seed or plants	For a Halloween harvest plant 6/15-7/10; otherwise plant 3/15-9/15	For a Halloween harvest plant 6/15-7/10; otherwise plant 3/15-9/15	For a Halloween harvest plant 6/15-7/10; Otherwise plant 4/1-9/15	For a Halloween harvest plant 6/15-7/10; Otherwise plant 4/1-9/15	1/2 inch	36-60 inches	60-120
Radishes Direct-seed	1/15-3/31	8/1 -11/1	2/1-3/15	8/1-10/30	1/8 inch	1 inch	22-28
Rutabagas Direct-seed	1/15-3/15	7/15-10/15	2/1-3/15	7/15-10/15	1/8 inch	4-8 inches	88
Shallots Plant bulbs	8/1-2/28	8/1-2/28	8/1-2/28	8/1-2/28	1 inch	4-8 inches	50
Spinach Direct-seed	2/1-3/15	9/15-11/15	2/1-3/30	9/1-11/15	1/8 inch	3-6 inches	35-45
Squash, summer Direct-seed or plants	3/15-6/30	7/1-9/15	4/1-6/30	7/1-8/31	1/8 inch	12-36 inches	50-90
Tomatoes Plants	3/15-5/15	7/1-8/15	3/20-6/30	7/1-8/10	—	18-24 inches	60-75*
Turnips for roots Direct-seed	1/15-3/15	7/15-10/31	2/1-3/30	7/15-10/31	1/8 inch	3-6 inches	40-50
Watermelons Direct-seed or plants	3/15-7/15	—	3/15-6/30	-----	1/2 inch	36 - 60 inches	90-110

**\*Days from transplanting**

Please note: Gardeners living in coastal Louisiana may extend the fall planting season by a month in many cases, as freezes seldom, if ever, occur. Coastal Louisiana gardeners may also begin transplanting all warm-season crops as soon as late February.

Under each vegetable we have noted to either directly place the seed in the garden or place seedlings (small plants) into the garden in the dates indicated above.

If you would like to seed your own transplants, follow the general guidelines below:

Tomatoes, peppers and eggplant must be seeded six to 10 weeks before planting. Longer times are for the spring crop. Cucurbits (pumpkin, cucumber, melons, squash, zucchini) should be seeded three to four weeks prior to planting. Lettuce, kale, Swiss chard, cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli and Brussels sprouts are seeded five to six weeks prior to planting. Celery is seeded six to eight weeks prior to transplanting. Please note this is a difficult crop to grow in Louisiana. (Cut yourself some slack if it doesn't work out).



# Recommended Varieties for Louisiana

Acronyms behind variety names indicate a resistance to particular pests.

See footnotes on following page.

Vegetable	Recommended Varieties
Beans, Lima (Bush)	Dixie Butterpea , Fordhook 242 (AAS), Henderson Bush, Jackson Wonder, Thorogreen (DM)
Beans, Lima (Pole)	Florida Speckled, King of Garden
Beans, Snap (Bush)	Blue Lake 274, Bronco, Contender (PM), Derby (AAS), Lynx, Magnum, Provider (BMV , PM), Roma II, Royal Burgundy, Strike, Valentino
Beans, Snap (Pole)	Blue Lake, Kentucky Blue (AAS), Kentucky Wonder 191, McCaslin, Rattlesnake (striped), Yardlong Asparagus Bean
Beets	Detroit Dark Red (DM), Kestrel (CLS, DM, PM), Red Ace , Ruby Queen
Broccoli	Arcadia (BR, DM), Diplomat (DM), Everest, Green Magic (DM), Gypsy (DM), Packman, Premium Crop (AAS, DM)
Brussels sprouts	Jade Cross E, Long Island Improved (OP), Royal Marvel
Cabbage	Early maturing: Blue Vantage (BR, DM, FY), Platinum Dynasty (BR,FY), Stonehead (AAS)
	Later maturing: Cheers (BR,FY), Blue Dynasty (BR,FY), Emblem (BR,FY), , Rio Verde,
	Savoy type: King (AAS)
Cantaloupes	Ambrosia (DM, PM), Aphrodite (PM), Athena (PM), Primo (DM, PM)
	Honeydew: Earli-dew (PM), Honey Brew (DM, PM), Lambkin AAS, Passport (ANT), Temptation
Carrots	Danvers 126, Purple Haze (AAS), Thumbelina (AAS)
	Deep soils: Apache, Enterprise, Maverick, Navajo.
Cauliflower	Candid Charm, Freedom, Snow Crown (AAS), Incline, Majestic
Collard Greens	Champion, Flash, Georgia (Creole), Top Bunch, Vates
Corn, Sweet	Sweet: Gold Queen, Seneca Horizon (BC), Silver Queen
	Supersweet: Golden Queen, Honey 'N Pearl (AAS) (BC)
	Sugar Enhanced (SE): Ambrosia, Avalon, Bodacious, Delectable, Honey Select (AAS), Incredible, Lancelot (BC), Miracle, Precious Gem (BC), White Out
Cucumbers	Slicers: Dasher II (ALS, ANT, CMV, DM, PM), Diva (AAS, PM, DM), Fanfare (AAS, ANT, DM, PM), General Lee (CVM, DM, PM), Intimidator (ALS, ANT, CMV, ), Olympian (ANT, DM, PM), Poinsett 76 (ANT, DM, PM), Rockingham (ANT, CMV, PM), Salad Bush (AAS, CMV), Speedway (ALS, ANT, CMV, DM, PM), Sweet Slice (CMV, DM, PM, WMV, ZYMV), Sweet Success (AAS, CMV, WMV), Talladega (ALS, ANT, CMVPM, WMV), Thunder (ALS, ANT, CMV, DM, ZYMV)
	Pickler: Calypso (ALS, ANT, CMV, DM, PM)

Vegetable	Recommended Varieties
Eggplants	Black Beauty, Calliope, Classic, Dusky, Epic, Fairy Tale (AAS), Night Shadow, Santana
Garlic	Creole, Italian
	Large: Elephant, Tahiti
Kohlrabi	Early Purple Vienna, Early White Vienna, Winner
Lettuce	Romaine: Cimarron Red, Flashy Trout back, Green Towers, Parris Island Cos,
	Leaf: Grand Rapid, New Red Fire MI (DM), Red Salad Bowl, Nevada (DM), Sierra, Red Sails (AAS), Salad Bowl (AAS), Tango
	Head: Buttercrunch (AAS), Esmeralda (DM), Great Lakes, Ithaca
Mustard Greens	Florida Broadleaf, Greenwave (AAS), Red Giant, Savannah, Southern Giant Curled (AAS), Tendergreen
Okra	Annie Oakley, Burgundy (AAS), Cajun Delight (AAS), Clemson Spineless, Cow's Horn, Emerald, Lee,
Onions	Red: Red Burgundy, Red Creole (not sweet), Southern Belle
	White: Candy, Savannah Sweet
	Yellow: Georgia Boy, Granex 33, Grano 502, Miss Megan, Mr. Buck, Pumba, Texas Grano 1015 Y
Peas, English/Garden	Mr. Big (AAS, PM), Novella II (PM), Oregon Sugar Pod (PM), Sugar Ann (AAS, PM), Sugar Snap (AAS)
Peas, Southern (cowpea)	Blackeye: California No. 5, Queen Anne
	Pinkeye: Pinkeye Purple Hull, QuickPick
	Cream: Elite, Mississippi Cream, Texas No. 8, Top Pick Cream
	Crowder: Colossus (CLS), Dixie Lee, Hercules, Knuckle Purple, Mississippi Purple (N), Mississippi Silver (N), Top Pick, Zipper Cream
Peppers, sweet/mild (bell)	Bell: Aristotle X3R (BLS, PVY), Blushing Beauty (AAS), Camelot X3R (BLS, TMV), Capistrano (OP), Excursion II (BLS, PVY, TMV, TSWV), Flavorburst, Golden Summer, Islander, Jupiter (OP, TMV), King Arthur (BLS, PVY, TMV), Lilac, Plato (PVY, TSWV), Purple Beauty, Tequila (TMV), Valencia (TMV)
	Frying Type: Carmen (AAS), Cubanelle, Gypsy (AAS), Tiburon Ancho
Peppers, hot	Ancho 101, Cayenne, Chilly Chili (AAS), El Rey (BLS, TMV), Grande (OP, TMV), Habanero, Hungarian Wax, Inferno, Jalapeno M, Mariachi (AAS), Mitla (TMV), Red Thick Cayenne, Serrano, , Tabasco
Potatoes, Irish	Red Skin: Norland, Red LaSoda (EB), Red Pontiac
	White Skin: Norchip, Kennebec (LB), Yukon Gold
Potatoes, sweet	Beauregard, Bienville, Centennial, Hernandez

Vegetable	Recommended Varieties
Pumpkins	Atlantic Giant, Autumn Gold (AAS), Baby Bear (AAS), Baby Boo, Big Max, Big Moon, Cinderella, Gold Medal, Gold Rush (AAS), Gooligan, Jack-Be-Little, Orange Smoothie (AAS), Prankster (PM), Silver Moon (PM), Small Sugar, Sorcerer (AAS)
Shallots	Green: Evergreen
	Bulbs: Matador, Prisma
Spinach	Bloomsdale L.S., Melody (AAS, DM), Tyee (DM)
Squash, summer	Zucchini: Cash Flow (ZYMV), Gold Rush (AAS), Justice III (CMV, WMV, ZYMV), Payroll (PM, WMV, ZYMV), Senator, Spineless Beauty, Tigress (PRSV, WMV, ZYMV)
	Straight Neck: Enterprise, Multipik (WMV,ZYMV)
	Crook Neck: Destiny III (CMV, WMV, ZYMV), Dixie, Gentry, Prelude II (PM, WMV, ZYMV)
	Scalloped: Patty Green, Peter Pan, Sunburst (AAS)
Squash, winter	Bush Delicata (PM), Cream of Crop, Golden Hubbard (OP), Honey Bear (AAS, PM), La Estrella, Sweet Mama (AAS), Sunshine (AAS), Table Ace, Table Queen, Tivoli Spaghetti (AAS), Ultra, Vegetable Spaghetti, Waltham Butternut (AAS)
Tomatoes	Indeterminate: Better Boy (FW, GLS,N, VW), Big Beef (AAS, N, ASC, GLS, FW 1 or 2, TMV, VW), Champion (N), Jet Star, Pink Girl (ASC,FW, GLS, N, TMV, VW), Sun Gold, Terrific (N)
	Determinate: Bella Rosa (ASC, FW 1 or 2, GLS, TSWV, VW), Carolina Gold FW 1 or 2, VW), Celebrity (AAS, N), Mountain Fresh Plus (N, EB, FW 1 or 2, VW), Mountain Spring (FW 1 or 2, GLS, VW), Tribeca (FW, GLS, TSWV, VW), Tribute (ASC, FW, GLS, TYLC, TSWV, VW)
	Heat Tolerant: Florida 91 (ASC, FW 1 or 2, GLS, VW), Heatwave II, Phoenix (ASC, FW 1 or 2, GLS, VW), Solar Fire (FW 1, 2 or 3, GLS), Sun Leaper, Sun Master
	Others: Cupid (ASC, FW1, GLS, SPECK), Juliet (AAS, EB, LB), Picus Roma (ASC, FW 1, GLS, TSWV, VW), Small Fry (AAS, N), Sweet Million (FW, N, TMV, VW), Sun Gold Cherry (FW, TMV)
Turnips	Just Right (AAS), Purple Top Shogoin, Tokyo Cross (AAS), White Lady
	Greens: Alamo, Seven Top
Watermelons	Crimson Sweet (OP), Jubilee II (OP), Regency, Royal Star, Royal Sweet (FW), Sangria, Starbrite (ANT, FW), Summer Flavor 720
	Seedless: Cooperstown (ANT), Gypsy (ANT), Millennium (ANT), Millionaire (ANT), Revolution (ANT, FW)
	Ice Box Type: Mickeylee (ANT), Sugar baby
	Yellow: Amarillo, Buttercup, Desert King (OP), Gold Strike, Tendersweet (ANT, FW), Tendersweet (OP)

N=Nematode Resistant; AAS=All America Selection; OP=Open Pollinated; BC=Bicolor  
Disease Resistance: ALS=Angular leaf spot; ANT=Anthracnose; ASC=Alternaria stem canker; BLS=Bacterial leaf spot; BR=Black rot; BMV=bean mosaic virus; CLS=Cercospora leaf spot; CMV=Cucumber mosaic virus; DM = Downy mildew; EB=Early blight; FW=Fusarium wilt races 1,2 or 3; FY=Fusarium yellows; GLS=Gray leaf spot; LB=Late blight; PM=Powdery mildew; PRSV=Papaya ringspot virus; PVY=Potato virus Y; SPECK=Bacterial speck; TMV=Tobacco mosaic virus; TSWV=Tomato spotted wilt virus; TYLC=Tomato Yellow Leaf Curl VW=Verticillium wilt; WMV=Watermelon mosaic virus; ZYMV=Zucchini yellow mosaic virus



# General Fertilizer Recommendations

Crops	Fertilizer or Equivalent per 100 Feet of Row or per 300 Square Feet	Side-dress*
Beans (snap, lima or butter), peas	2-3 pounds 8-24-24 or 2-5 pounds 8-8-8	—
Beets, carrots, radishes, turnips, rutabagas, kohlrabi	6-7 pounds 8-8-8 or 4-5 pounds 8-24-24	Three to four weeks after planting.
Cabbage, collards, broccoli, brussels sprouts, cauliflower	5-6 pounds 8-8-8 or 3-4 pounds 8-24-24	Three to four weeks after transplanting and again in two to three weeks.
Cantaloupes, watermelons, honeydews	5-6 pounds 8-8-8 or 3-4 pounds 8-24-24	Once when vines begin to run.
Celery	6-7 pounds 8-8-8 or 5 pounds 8-24-24	Once after frost danger has passed and again in three to four weeks.
Corn (sweet)	6-7 pounds 8-8-8 or 4-5 pounds 8-24-24	At 1 foot and 3 feet tall.
Tomatoes	4-5 pounds 8-24-24 or 6-8 pounds 8-8-8	At first fruit set and every three to four weeks thereafter.
Lettuce, endive, escarole, romaine, fennel (double for head lettuce)	4-5 pounds 8-24-24 or 6-7 pounds 8-8-8	Three to four weeks after transplanting.
Onions, garlic, shallots	4-5 pounds 8-8-8 or 3-4 pounds 8-24-24	Four to six weeks after transplanting; bulb onions and garlic in March as bulbs begin to swell.
Mustard greens, parsley, spinach	4-5 pounds 8-24-24 or 6-7 pounds 8-8-8	Three to four weeks after planting.
Okra	2-3 pounds 8-24-24 or 3-4 pounds 8-8-8	After first pod set and every four to six weeks thereafter.
Peppers, eggplants	4-5 pounds 8-24-24 or 5-6 pounds 8-8-8	At first fruit set.
Potatoes (Irish)	6-8 pounds 8-8-8 or 5-6 pounds 8-24-24	After plants are 6-10 inches tall.
Potatoes (sweet)	3-4 pounds 8-24-24 or 4-5 pounds 8-8-8	—
Squash, cucumbers, pumpkins	3-5 pounds 8-24-24 or 4-6 pounds 8-8-8	As plants begin to run and again in three to four weeks.

Note: One quart of fertilizer weighs about 2 pounds. First analysis listed is the preferred blend.

\*For 100 feet of row or 300 square feet, apply 2 pounds calcium nitrate or 1 pound ammonium sulfate. (If neither

calcium nitrate nor ammonium sulfate is available, 3 pounds of 8-8-8 may be substituted.)

**General fertilizer recommendations** are based on soils of average fertility that have no imbalances of major soil nutrients. A soil analysis will determine if certain soil nutrients are exceptionally high or low. Most garden vegetables need a soil pH (acidity) between 5.5 and 7. Lime should not be applied without first completing a soil analysis that shows the need for lime. You should have your soil tested at least every three years!

It should be understood that the numbers (analysis) on a bag of fertilizer represent the percentages of nitrogen, phosphate and potash. For example, a

100-pound bag of 8-8-8 fertilizer is 8% (8 pounds of the 100-pound bag) nitrogen (N), 8% (8 pounds of the bag) phosphate (P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>), and 8% (8 pounds of the bag) potash (K<sub>2</sub>O).

Fertilizers with different analyses can be substituted for those listed to provide approximately the same amount of plant food, but they will need to be applied at different rates. For example, 6 pounds of a 12-12-12 contains an equivalent amount of nitrogen, phosphate and potash as 9 pounds of 8-8-8 because it contains approximately one-third more plant food (36 pounds per 100-pound bag of 12-12-12 compared to 24 pounds per 100-pound bag of 8-8-8).



# Example of Rotating Vegetable Crops in a Small Garden

	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov		
Row 1	Greens <sup>P</sup>							Cabbage*				
Row 2	Onions				Southern Peas <sup>P</sup>		Onions					
Row 3	Greens	Bell Peppers*						Broccoli*				
Row 4								Lettuce*				
Row 5		Eggplants*										
Row 6	Greens <sup>P</sup>			Butter Beans <sup>P</sup>								
Row 7	Kale <sup>P</sup>							Carrots <sup>P</sup>				
Row 8	Irish				Squash* <sup>P</sup>			Beets <sup>P</sup>				
Row 9	Greens <sup>P</sup>							English Peas <sup>P</sup>				
Row 10		Okra* <sup>P</sup>										
	Frost										Frost	

Transplanted

<sup>P</sup>Seeded

The garden figure above is simply an example of the variety of vegetable crops you can grow in your garden. Refer to pages 3-4 for complete planting dates because these vegetable crops have a wide range in times to seed and transplant.

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