



Last frost in Spring May 1		<b>Seed Planting Guide</b>								First frost in Fall October 1		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Plant	(C)old or (Warm) Season	Preferred pH range	Inches deep to sow seeds	Inches between seeds	Inches between rows	Inches apart to thin plants	Earliest date to sow seeds	Last date to sow for full crop before first frost	Days to germinate	Days to maturity	Date of maturity	Date of last productive harvest
Asparagus Seed	W	6.4-7.4	1.5	4	36	15	May 15	Jun 15	21	(1)	May 15	Jul 10
Bean, Snap, Bush	W	5.8-6.8	1	4	24	4	May 11	Jun 28	10	60	Jul 10	Aug 7
Bean, Snap, Pole	W	5.8-6.8	1	6	36	6	May 11	Jun 18	10	70	Jul 20	Sep 14
Bean, Lima, Bush	W	5.8-6.8	1	4	24	4	May 21	Jun 13	10	75	Aug 4	Sep 1
Bean, Lima, Pole	W	5.8-6.8	1	6	36	6	May 21	May 29	10	90	Aug 19	Sep 30
Bean, Soy	W	5.8-6.8	1	5	15	5	May 26	Jun 18	10	70	Aug 4	Aug 25
Beets	C	6.2-7.2	1	2	15	4	Apr 1	Jul 13	20	70	Jun 10	(5)
Broccoli (7)	C	6.2-7.2	0.5	(2)	30	18	Apr 3	Jun 2	14	111	Jul 23	(6)
Brussel Sprouts (7)	C	6.2-7.2	0.5	(2)	30	18	Apr 3	May 13	14	131	Aug 12	(6)
Cabbage, Chinese (7)	C	6.2-7.2	0.5	(2)	24	12	Apr 10	Jul 22	14	91	Jul 10	(6)
Cabbage, Regular (7)	C	6.2-7.2	0.5	(2)	30	18	Apr 17	Jul 17	14	96	Jul 22	(6)
Cantaloupe & Melons	W	6.2-7.2	1	(3)	48	24	May 15	Jun 13	15	75	Jul 29	Aug 28
Carrots	C	6.0-7.0	0.5	1	18	3	Apr 17	Jul 8	21	75	Jul 1	(5)
Cauliflower (7)	C	6.2-7.2	0.5	(2)	30	18	Apr 3	Jul 17	14	96	Jul 8	(6)
Celeriac	C	6.0-7.0	0.25	2	18	6	Apr 24	May 29	21	115	Aug 17	(5)
Celery	C	6.0-7.0	0.25	2	18	6	Apr 24	May 24	21	120	Aug 22	(5)
Collards	C	5.7-6.7	0.5	(2)	36	12	Apr 17	Jul 3	14	80	Jul 6	(6)
Corn	W	6.2-6.8	1.5	9	30	--	May 25	Jun 8	14	80	Aug 13	Aug 27
Cucumber	W	5.9-6.9	1	(3)	48	24	May 11	Jun 18	10	70	Jul 20	Aug 24
Endive & Escarole	W	6.0-7.0	0.5	(2)	21	12	Apr 10	May 29	20	90	Jul 9	Aug 6
Kale	C	6.0-7.0	0.5	(2)	24	12	Apr 10	Jul 23	10	60	Jul 9	Jul 21
Kohlrabi	C	6.0-7.0	0.5	2	18	6	Apr 10	Aug 2	10	50	May 30	(5)
Leeks	C	6.0-7.0	0.5	1	15	4	Apr 10	Jun 13	10	100	Jul 19	(5)

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Lettuce, Head	C	6.2-7.2	0.25	(5)	24	12	Apr 10	Jul 8	10	75	Jun 24	(5)
Lettuce, Leaf	C	6.2-7.2	0.25	1	12	4	Apr 10	Aug 7	10	45	May 25	Jun 29
Melons	W	6.2-7.2	0.5	(3)	48	24	May 15	Jun 13	14	75	Jul 29	Aug 28
Okra	W	6.5-7.5	1	(2)	24	12	May 31	Jul 3	14	55	Jul 25	Sep 5
Onion, Bunching	C	6.2-7.2	0.5	0.5	12	2	Apr 17	Jul 13	10	70	Jun 26	Jul 17
Onion, Regular (Sets)	C	6.2-7.2	1	1	15	4	Apr 17	Jun 8	10	105	Jul 31	Aug 21
Parsnip	C	6.2-7.2	0.5	1	24	4	Apr 17	Jun 3	21	110	Aug 5	Aug 26
Pea	C	6.0-7.0	1	3	18	3	Apr 1	Jul 18	12	65	Jun 5	Jul 3
Peanut	W	5.0-6.0	1	4	36	12	May 1	May 24	14	120	Aug 29	
Pumpkin	W	6.0-7.0	1	(2)	72	36	May 21	May 9	12	110	Sep 8	Sep 22
Radish	C	5.5-6.5	0.5	1	12	2	Apr 1	Aug 22	10	30	May 1	May 22
Rhubarb (4)	W	5.5-6.5	0.5	6	36	30	May 11	May 9	21	110	Aug 29	Sep 19
Rutabaga	W	6.4-7.4	0.5	2	36	8	May 31	May 29	15	90	Aug 29	Sep 19
Salsify	W	6.2-7.2	0.5	2	18	4	May 1	May 4	20	115	Aug 24	Sep 14
Spinach	C	6.2-7.2	0.5	2	15	4	Apr 1	Aug 2	14	50	May 21	Jun 18
Squash, Summer	W	6.2-7.2	1	(3)	48	24	May 15	Jun 28	12	60	Jul 14	Sep 8
Squash, Winter	W	6.2-7.2	1	(3)	72	36	May 15	May 29	10	90	Aug 13	Sep 24
Swiss Chard	W	6.0-7.0	0.75	3	36	9	Apr 17	Jul 3	14	55	Jun 11	Jul 9
Turnip	C	6.4-7.4	0.5	2	15	4	Apr 3	Jul 28	14	55	May 28	Jun 18

## Understanding Seed Planting Guide Data

- Column 2** All vegetable plants prefer warm temperatures for growth and fruit development. This column indicates whether the seed can be planted before the last frost of the year or the plant will withstand a light frost in the Fall. If so, it is considered a cold (C) weather plant. Otherwise it is a warm (W) weather plant.
- Column 3** Range of pH values in which plant varieties will survive. Optimum for each variety is the exact middle of these ranges.
- Column 4** You may also use this depth when starting seeds in flats inside.

- Column 5** Distance in inches to maintain between seeds when sowing them directly in the garden. To save seed, time and money “spot” plant beans, peas and other plants with short germination time (10 days or less). That is, plant seeds where you want the eventual plant to grow (see column 7 for spacing). If, 4 to 5 days after a seedling should have emerged, you see an empty space between seedlings, simply plant a new seed in that spot.
- Column 6** Distance in inches to maintain between the garden rows. This allows approximately 12 inches between rows for walking. If handicapped and need assistance from walkers or similar equipment, than widen the rows accordingly. If you garden by an intensive bed method, disregard this column, as the distance in column 7 is then used for both plant and row spacing.
- Column 7** Distance in inches to leave between seedlings in the row after thinning out excess seedlings. Distances are based on standard varieties in soil of average condition. If planting a similar variety or your soil has a lot of humus and an excellent level of nutrients, you can decrease the distance by 1/6 for plants normally spaced more than 12 inches apart.
- Column 8** Earliest date to normally sow seed in the garden without suffering frost damage. If your garden is very wet at this time of year, you may need to use seeds treated with a fungicide to help prevent rotting, make several plantings each a couple weeks apart or plant several weeks later.
- Column 9** Our late dates are determined a little differently than other planting guides. Ours generally offer a late planting date based on the first frost in the Fall minus the days it takes a plant to mature. However, that only allows one picking. If you’re like most gardeners, you’ll want more than one picking from beans, peas and other plants that repeatedly bear fruit. Therefore, the “Latest Date” was calculated to allow a more complete harvest for your labors.
- Column 10** A column for germination time is included as a guide to help track the productivity of your seeds. If growing conditions have been less than perfect this may help indicate whether to replant or give the seeds a little more time. It’s also good to know if you intend to use “spot” planting as discussed under column 5 above.
- Column 11** Each variety of vegetable matures at its own rate. This column indicates the average time for a type of vegetable to mature. Compare it to the variety you want to plant. If the variety you have chosen takes more or less time to mature, adjust the dates in columns 9, 12 and 13 by the number of days difference. Remember, column 9 should be adjusted in the opposite direct than columns 12 and 13.
- Column 12** The date an average maturing variety (column 11) should provide its first productive picking under good conditions if it was planted on the date indicated in column 8.
- Column 13** The date an average maturing variety (column 11) should provide its last productive picking under good conditions if it was planted on the date indicated in column 8.

## Notes Referenced in the Table

- (1) Plants started from seed will mature 3 to 4 years after planting.
- (2) Plant 2 to 3 seeds in a 1-1/2 inch circle, keeping the circles spaced apart the distance recommended in column 7. Thin to one plant per “hill” when the plants are about 5 inches high. To thin them, cut plants to be removed at ground level instead of pulling them out. This will prevent disrupting the roots of the plant you want to remain.
- (3) Similar to note 2 above, except here you plant 4 to 6 seeds in a 3 inch circle.
- (4) Plant seed in early Spring 6 inches apart. Using the healthiest seedlings, transplant in the Fall to their permanent location 24 to 30 inches between plants and 36 inches between the rows. Do not harvest the first year’s growth.
- (5) Normally not thought of as having a harvest “period” like beans, peas and tomatoes. Once pulled their harvest is over. Like any other plant they don’t all mature at the same time. You can leave them in the ground and pull a few at any time when needed. Of course, the longer you leave them in the ground the more potential you have for pest problems. Beets, carrots and potatoes can be covered with a 6 to 10 inch layer of straw in the Fall and kept in the ground over Winter. Simply lift the straw and pull or dig a few when needed. Kohlrabi, however, should not be left in the ground more than a couple weeks after maturing, or they will acquire a woody texture.
- (6) As with root crops, these vegetables are finished growing when removed from the garden. Instead of pulling the plants, cut the heads out by slicing through the stem just below the main head (inside their protective leaf pockets) with a diagonal cut. Cut in this way they will develop new, small heads, increasing the productivity of your garden. There are a few exceptions:  
 With collards you simply break off the mature, bottom leaves as you need them. Brussel sprouts are harvested by breaking off the mature, bottom sprouts. Head lettuce will not produce new heads, so you might as well pull the whole plant. These crops can be left until after frost, as a light frost actually sweetens their flavor. If covered in the Fall by one of the heavy row covers available on the market you can actually have fresh vegetables for Christmas dinner in most of the U.S.
- (7) Best results if transplants are used. The seeds of some varieties are quick to rot if planted according to the “Early date...”. With other varieties the added time for germination may require a longer growing season, and thereby, a much less productive harvest.