

Vegetable Garden Planting Guide: Spring

NC State University | College of Ag & Life Sciences | Cooperative Extension | Horticultural Science

Vegetables	Suggested Planting Dates ¹ for Seed or Transplants	Suggested Cultivars	Distance Between Plants inches	Planting Depth inches	Min. Soil Temp. ² °F	Days to Maturity
Asparagus (crowns)	Nov. 15-Mar. 15	Mary Washington, Jersey Giant, Jersey Gem	15	6.0	<	2 years
Beans, snap	Apr. 15-July 15	Tenderette, Harvester, Roma II (flat), Derby, Dandy	3	1.0	60	50-55
Beans, pole	Apr. 15-July 1	Kentucky Wonder 191, Blue Lake Stringless, Romano, Kentucky Blue	6	1.0	50	65-70
Beans, bush lima	May 1-July 1	Fordhook 242, Bridgeton, Early Thorogreen	6	1.5	65	65-80
Beans, pole lima	May 1-June 15	King of the Garden, Carolina Sieva (small)	6	1.5	65	75-95
Beets	Mar. 15-Apr. 15; July 15-Aug. 15	Ruby Queen, Early Wonder, Red Ace, Pacemaker II	2	0.5	50	55-60
Broccoli ^{3,4}	Mar. 15-31; July 15-Aug. 15	DeCicco, Packman, Premium Crop, Green Duke, Emperor	18	0.5	45	70-80
Brussels sprouts ^{3,4}	July 1-15	Long Island Improved, Jade Cross Hybrid	20	0.5	45	90-100
Cabbage (plants) ^{3,4}	Feb. 1-Apr. 1; Aug 1-15	Round Dutch, Early Jersey Wakefield, Red Express, Red Rookie, Sweetbase	12	0.5	45	70-80
Cabbage, Chinese	Mar. 15-Apr. 1; Aug. 1-15	Pak Choi, Mei Ching, Jade Pagoda, China Pride	12	0.5	50	75-85
Cantaloupe	Apr. 20-June 1	Classic, Magnum 45, Ambrosia, Honey Brew	24	1.0	70	85-99
Carrots	Feb. 15-Mar. 1; July 1-15	Danvers Half Long, Spartan Bonus, Little Finger, Thumbelina, Scarlet Nantes	2	0.25	45	85-95

Cauliflower ^{3,4}	Mar. 15-31; Aug 1-15	Early Snowball "A", Violet Queen, Snowcrown	18	0.5	45	55-65
Collards ^{3,4}	July 15-Aug. 15	Vates, Morris' Improved Heading, Carolina, Blue Max	18	0.5	45	60-100
Corn, sweet	Apr. 15-June 1	Silver Queen, Seneca Chief, Honey 'N Pearl, How Sweet It Is, Bodacious, Merit	12	1.5	50	85-90
Cucumbers, pickling	Apr. 20-May 15; Aug. 1-15	Carolina, Calypso, Liberty (mnts.), County Fair '83	10	1.0	65	40-50
Cucumbers, slicing	Apr. 20-May 15; Aug. 1-15	Poinsett 76, Sweet Slice, County Fair '83, Salad Bush, Fanfare	10	1.0	65	40-50
Eggplant (plants) ^{3,4}	May 1-31	Florida Highbush, Special Hibush, Ichiban, Rosa Bianco	24	0.5	70	80-85
Kale	Mar. 1-Apr. 1; Aug. 15-Sept. 1	Green Curled Scotch, Early Siberian, Vates, Dwarf Blue Curled Scotch, Blue Knight	6	0.5	45	40-50
Kohlrabi	Mar. 1-Apr. 15; Aug. 1-Sept. 1	White Vienna, Grand Duke Hybrid	4	0.5	55	50-60
Lettuce (leaf)	Mar. 1-Apr. 1; Aug. 1-Sept. 1	Grand Rapids, Salad Bowl, Buttercrunch, Red Sails, Romulus	6	0.25	45	40-50
Lettuce (head)	Feb. 15-Mar. 15; Aug. 15-31	Great Lakes, Ithaca	10	0.25	45	70-85
Mustard	Mar. 1-Apr. 1; Aug. 1-Sept. 15	Southern Giant Curled, Tendergreen, Savannah	2	0.5	40	30-40
Onions (seeds)	Jan. 15-Mar. 31; Sept. 1-30	Texas 1015, Granex 33, Candy	4	0.5	50	130-150
Onions (sets or plants)	Feb. 1-Mar. 15; Sept. 1-15	Ebenezer, Excell, Early Grano	4	<	<	60-80
Okra	May 1-31	Clemson Spineless, Lee, Annie Oakley, Burgundy	12	1.0	70	60-70
Peas (edible-podded)	Jan. 1-Mar. 15	Sugar Snap, Mammoth Melting Sugar, Snowbird, Sugar Bon	1	1.0	40	60-70
Peas, garden	Jan. 1-Mar. 15	Wando, Green Arrow, Freezonian, Tall Telephone	1	1.0	40	65-70

Peas, southern	May 1-July 1	Dixilee, Mississippi Silver, Colossus, Hercules, Mississippi Purple Hull	4	1.0	70	55-65
Peppers, sweet (plants) ^{3,4}	May 1-31	California Wonder, Yolo Wonder, Pimento, Mexi Bell, Jingle Bells, King Arthur, Lilac Bell, Lemon Bell	18	0.5	65	75-80
Peppers, hot (plants) 3,4	May 1-31	Red Chili, Cayenne, Hungarian Yellow Wax, Super Chili, Super Cayenne, Mitla, Surefire, Biscayne, Habanero, Thai Dragon	15	0.5	65	75-80
Potatoes (Irish)	Feb. 15-Apr. 1	Kennebec, Red Pontiac, Yukon Gold, Superior	10	5.0	40	95-120
Pumpkins	Apr. 15-June 15	Autumn Gold, Howden's Field, Spookie (small), Baby Bear, Connecticut Field, Big Moon (big), Jack Be Little (dwarf)	48	1.5	70	115-120
Radishes	Feb. 1-Apr. 1; Aug. 15-Sept. 15	Early Scarlet Globe, Cherry Belle, Snowbells, White Icicle	1	0.5	45	25-30
Radish, Diakon	Feb. 1-Apr. 1; Aug. 15-Sept. 15	April Cross, H. N. Cross	4	0.5	50	60-75
Rutabagas	Feb. 1-Apr. 1; July 1-Aug. 1	American Purple Top, Laurentian	4	0.5	60	70-80
Spinach	Feb. 15-Mar. 15; Aug. 1-15	Hybrid 7, Dark Green Bloomsdale, Tye Hybrid	6	0.5	45	50-60
Squash, summer	Apr. 15-May 15; Aug. 1-15	Seneca Prolific (yellow), Zucchini Elite (green), Sun Drop, Goldbar, Sunburst, Peter Pan	24	1.5	60	50-60
Squash, winter	Apr. 15-May 15; Aug. 1-15	Sweet Mama, Early Butternut, Spaghetti, Cream of the Crop, Table Ace, Lakota, Butterbush	36	1.0	60	70-95
Sweetpotatoes ⁴	May 15-June 15	Porto Rico 198,	10	<	70	95-125

		Jewel				
Swiss chard	Mar. 15-May 1	Lucullus, Rhubarb Chard	6	0.5	50	60-70
Tomatoes (plants) ^{3, 4}	Apr. 20-July 15	Whopper ⁵ , Mountain Pride, Celebrity ⁵ , Better Boy ⁵ , Husky Gold, Patio, Big Beef ⁵ , Golden Boy	18	0.5	60	75-85
Turnips	Feb. 1-Apr. 15; Aug. 1-31	Purple Top White Globe, Just Right, Tokyo Cross Hybrid, White Egg, All Top	2	0.5	60	55-60
Watermelons	Apr. 15-June 1	Congo, Sweet Princess, Golden Crown, Yellow Doll, Tiger Baby	60	1.5	70	90-100

¹ Dates shown are for the upper coastal plain and lower piedmont. In western North Carolina delay planting 10 to 20 days in spring. In eastern North Carolina plant 7 to 14 days earlier in the spring and 7 to 10 days later in the fall.

² At these temperatures germination and emergence should be rapid. Planting at lower soil temperatures would delay or prevent germination.

³ Seeding depths and soil temperatures are given for gardeners who wish to grow their own plants.

⁴ Set plants with at least 50 percent of their length below ground.

⁵ Carries resistance to verticillium wilt, fusarium wilt, and root-knot nematodes.

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