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Home Vegetable Garden: Variety Recommendations for Michigan Gardeners
Michigan State University
Cooperative Extension Service
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Department of Horticulture
March 1980
6 pages

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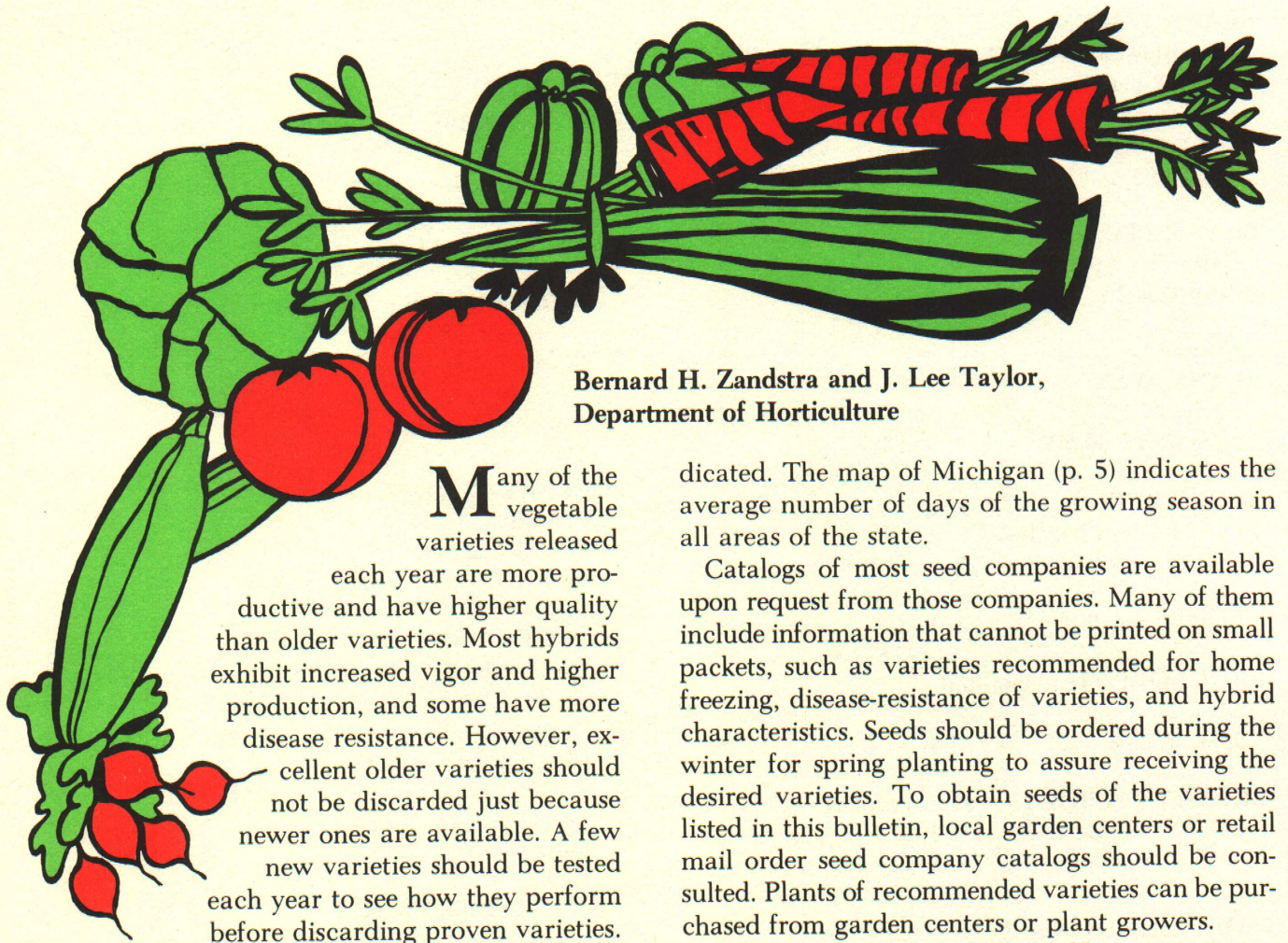
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Home Vegetable Garden Variety Recommendations

MARCH 1980

EXTENSION BULLETIN E-760(a)



Bernard H. Zandstra and J. Lee Taylor,
Department of Horticulture

Many of the vegetable varieties released each year are more productive and have higher quality than older varieties. Most hybrids exhibit increased vigor and higher production, and some have more disease resistance. However, excellent older varieties should not be discarded just because newer ones are available. A few new varieties should be tested each year to see how they perform before discarding proven varieties.

Disease resistant or tolerant varieties should be grown wherever possible.

The number of days to maturity should be considered when choosing a variety. Varieties selected should be capable of maturing during your growing season. For example, most sweet potatoes require about 150 days from planting to maturity, so there is little likelihood that they would mature in the Upper Peninsula. The number of days from seeding to maturity are shown except for those crops which are normally transplanted, as in-

dicated. The map of Michigan (p. 5) indicates the average number of days of the growing season in all areas of the state.

Catalogs of most seed companies are available upon request from those companies. Many of them include information that cannot be printed on small packets, such as varieties recommended for home freezing, disease-resistance of varieties, and hybrid characteristics. Seeds should be ordered during the winter for spring planting to assure receiving the desired varieties. To obtain seeds of the varieties listed in this bulletin, local garden centers or retail mail order seed company catalogs should be consulted. Plants of recommended varieties can be purchased from garden centers or plant growers.

Following is a list of vegetable varieties suggested for Michigan gardens. Numbers in parentheses indicate approximate number of days to harvest from seeding or transplanting. Those crops normally transplanted are indicated. The numbers given under "source" refer to the seed companies listed on page 4.

This is only a partial listing of satisfactory varieties and seed sources. Many other excellent varieties are available from these and other seed companies.

Recommended Varieties for 1980

Sources p. 4

Sources p. 4

ASPARAGUS

- Mary Washington
(perennial) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10
12, 13, 14, 16
Viking (perennial) 15

BEANS, GREEN

- Bush Blue Lake 274 (54) . . 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 15
Green Ruler (57) 4, 6
Provider (50) 6, 9, 14, 15, 16
Spartan Arrow (51) 3, 4, 6, 14, 15
Tender Crop (55) 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 12, 15

BEANS, LIMA

- Early Thorogreen (68) . . 12, 14
Fordhook 242 (75) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 12,
13, 14, 15

BEANS, WAX

- Earliwax (55) 9
Kinghorn Wax (55) 7, 9, 15

BEETS, RED

- Crosby Green Top (60) . . 6
Detroit Dark Red (66) . . 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10,
11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16
Ruby Queen (60) 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 12,
14, 15, 16

BROCCOLI—Transplanted

- Green Comet (60) 2, 3, 4, 6, 10, 12, 15
Spartan Early (70) 1, 4, 6, 9, 10, 15

BRUSSELS SPROUTS—Transplanted

- Jade Cross (95) 1, 2, 5, 7, 9, 11, 12, 15
Jade Cross Strain E (92) . 6, 14, 15, 16

CABBAGE, CHINESE

- Michihli (80) 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12,
14, 15, 16
Springtime (60) 15
Summertime (70) 15
Wintertime (80) 15

CABBAGE, GREEN—Transplanted

- Danish Ballhead (108) . . 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13
14
Market Prize (76) 6
Market Victor (65) 6
Roundup (76) 9, 15, 16
Stonehead (66) 1, 2, 5, 7, 9, 12, 13, 15, 16
Superette (65) 9, 14
King Cole (68) 9, 14, 15, 16

CABBAGE, RED—Transplanted

- Red Head (85) 6, 7, 15
Ruby Ball (72) 2, 3, 4, 6

CABBAGE, SAVOY—Transplanted

- Savoy Ace (75) 1, 6, 10, 11, 12, 15
Savoy King (82) 1, 3, 5, 6, 10, 12, 15, 16

CARROTS

- Danvers (110) 1, 2, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12,
15, 16
Spartan Bonus (110) . . . 2, 6, 11, 12, 15, 16
Spartan Delite (100) . . . 6, 8
Spartan Fancy (100) . . . 6, 15

CAULIFLOWER—Transplanted

- Greenball (65) 5
Self Blanche (72) 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 12, 14, 15,
16
Snowball Y (70) 14, 15
Snowcrown (53) 2, 3, 4, 6, 15, 16

CELERY—Transplanted

- Florida 2-13 (85) 14
Florida 683 (90) 9, 14, 15
Utah 52-70 (85) 8, 9, 11, 14, 15

SWEET CORN

- Earlivee (63) 15
Gold Cup (80) 6, 15
Northern Belle (74) . . . 6, 15
Silver Queen (94) 2, 3, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12, 13,
14, 15, 16
Sprite (68) 6
Sundance (69) 6

CUCUMBERS, PICKLING

- Calypso (52) 6
Green Star (51) 6
Wisconsin SMR 18 (56) . 1, 2, 5, 7, 9, 11, 14

CUCUMBERS, SLICING

- Burpee Hybrid (68) 2, 9, 13, 14, 15
High Mark II (60) 9, 15
Marketmore 70 (68) . . . 2, 6, 9, 12, 14, 15, 16
Pacer (62) 6

EGGPLANT—Transplanted

- Black Beauty (80) 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13,
14
Black Magic (73) 6
Burpee Hybrid (70) 2
Dusky (69) 1, 3, 6, 9, 12, 14, 15

Sources p. 4

LETTUCE, BIBB

- Buttercrunch (64) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10,
11, 12, 13, 14, 15
- Summer Bibb (62) 1, 6, 9, 14

LETTUCE, HEAD

- Fulton (90) 9, 14, 15
- Great Lakes 659 (86) . . . 1, 4, 7, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14,
16
- Ithaca (85) 6, 9, 14, 15

LETTUCE, LEAF

- Grand Rapids (45) 2, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 13,
15, 16
- Waldmann's Green (45) . 6, 9, 14

MUSKMELON—Transplanted

- Ambrosia (84) 14, 15
- Burpee Hybrid (85) 1, 2, 4, 9, 15
- Earlisweet (80) 15
- Gold Star (87) 6
- Saticoy (90) 5, 6, 9, 11, 12, 14, 15

ONIONS, GREEN

- Beltsville Bunching (65) . 9, 15
- Southport White
Bunching (65) 6, 9, 14, 15
- White Lisbon (60) 3, 6, 15

ONIONS, YELLOW

- Abundance (100) 14
- Downing Yellow Globe
(115) 4, 5, 9, 11, 14
- Spartan Banner (110) . . 6, 14
- Spartan Sleeper (112) . . 15

PEAS

- Freezonian (62) 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12,
13, 16
- Frosty (64) 3, 5, 6, 9, 10, 13, 16
- Greater Progress (62) . . . 6
- Sugar Snap
(edible podded) (68) . . . 2, 4, 5, 6, 12, 15, 16

PEPPERS, HOT—Transplanted

- Hungarian Yellow Wax
(70) 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12,
13, 15, 16
- Red Cherry (80) 1, 5, 7, 9, 14, 15
- Rumanian Wax (70) 6

Sources p. 4

PEPPERS, SWEET BELL—Transplanted

- Bell Boy (75) 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 12, 13,
15, 16
- Canape (62) 2, 6, 15
- Keystone Resistant Giant
(80) 6, 9, 14, 15, 16
- Yolo Wonder L (78) 4, 9, 11, 12, 14, 16

POTATO—Vegetative Seed Pieces

- Katahdin (120)
- Michimac (120)
- Norchip (90) 5
- Norgold Russet (90) 4, 5
- Norland (75)
- Onaway (75)
- Sebago (120)
- Superior (75) 8

PUMPKIN

- Big Max (large) (120) . . . 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 11, 13,
14, 15, 16
- Connecticut Field
(medium) (115) 3, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 14,
15, 16
- Jack-O-Lantern
(medium) (110) 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 12, 14,
15
- Small Sugar (pie) (115) . . 2, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15
- Spookie (pie) (110) 6, 15
- Young's Beauty
(medium) (112) 6, 13, 14

RADISH

- Cherry Belle (24) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10,
11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16
- Icicle (White) (30) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 11,
12, 13, 14
- Red Prince (23) 11, 14, 15
- Scarlet Globe (23) 2, 3, 4, 7, 9, 11, 14, 15,
16

RUTABAGA

- American Purple Top
(90) 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11,
12, 16
- Laurentian (90) 3, 6, 11, 14, 15

SPINACH

- Dark Green Bloomsdale
(43) 6, 14, 16
- Long Standing
Bloomsdale (48) 2, 3, 4, 7, 9, 10, 11, 13,
14, 15
- Melody (43) 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 10, 12, 14,
15, 16

Sources p. 4

SQUASH, SUMMER

Green

- Burpee Hybrid (50) 2
Caserta (50) 9, 11
President (49) 14, 15
Zucchini Elite (48) 6
Zucchini Select (47) 15

Yellow

- Early Prolific
Straightneck (52) 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 11, 14
16
Gold Rush (52) 2, 12, 16
Seneca Prolific (51) 6, 9, 16
Yellow Crookneck (55) 2, 5, 7, 13, 16

White

- Patty Pan (50) 1, 2, 5, 11, 16

SQUASH, WINTER

Buttercup Burgess Strain

- (100) 1, 6, 14, 15, 16
Butternut (110) 2, 5, 6, 9, 14
Table Ace (acorn) (78) 4, 5, 6, 9, 12, 14, 16
Table King (acorn) (80) 2, 3, 6, 7, 10, 12, 15, 16
Table Queen (acorn)
(90) 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 13
14, 15

Waltham Butternut

- (110) 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11
12, 13, 14, 15, 16

TOMATO—Transplanted

- Campbell 1327 (75) 1, 6, 9, 14, 15, 16
Jet Star (72) 6
Large Red Cherry (72) 2, 7, 11
New Yorker (65) 6, 14, 15, 16
Pik-Red (formerly
Redpak) (75) 6
Roma VF (for paste)
(76) 2, 6, 9, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16
Setmore (71) 6
Small Fry (cherry) (68) 1, 3, 6, 7, 11, 12
Sunray (yellow) (83) 1, 2, 4, 6, 11, 16

WATERMELON—Transplanted

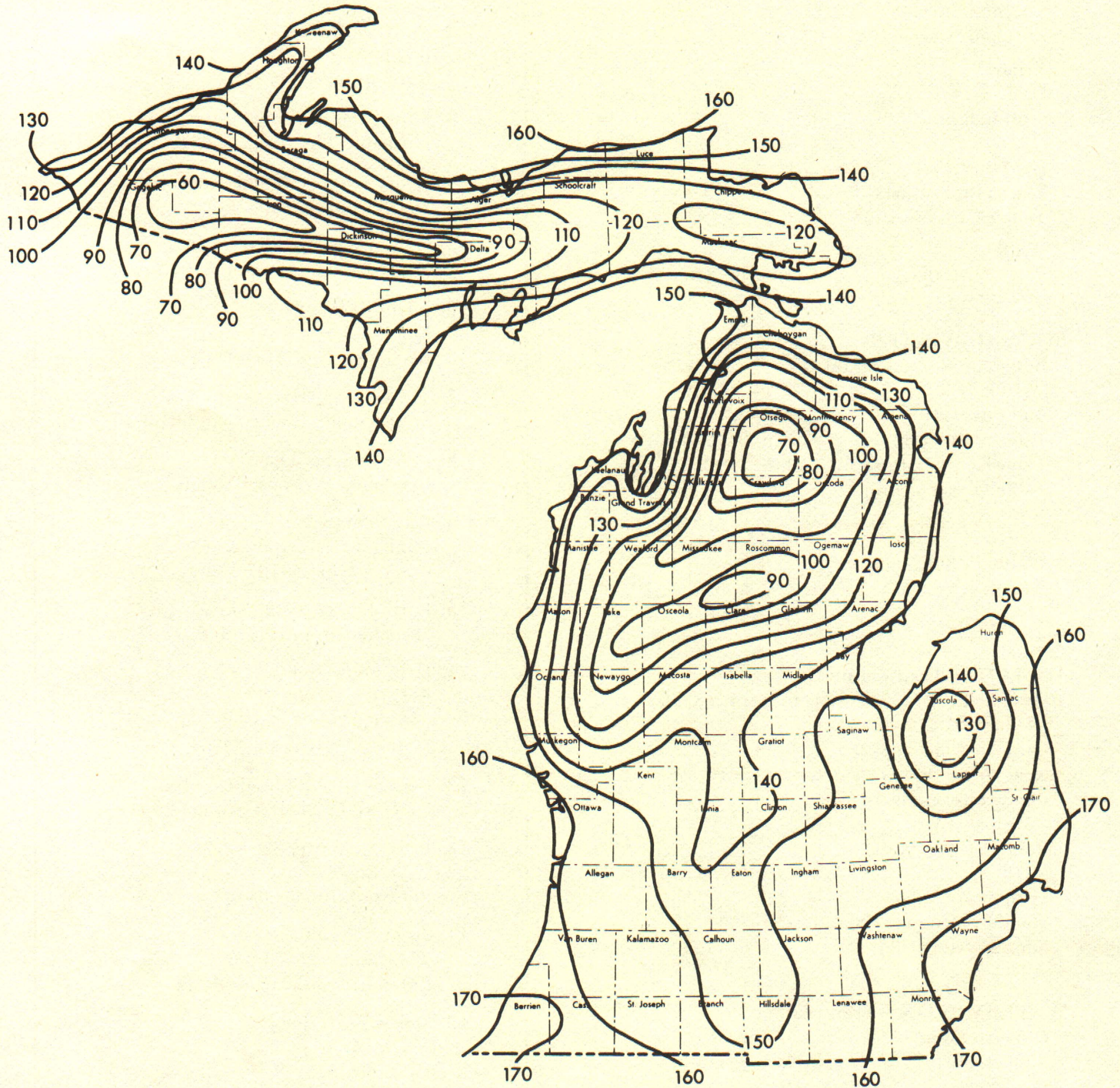
Crimson Sweet

- (medium) (97) 2, 4, 6, 9, 10, 11, 14, 15,
16
Sugar Baby (small)
(86) 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10,
11, 12, 14, 15
Summer Festival
(medium) (88) 6, 9

Sources of Seed

1. Burgess Seed and Plant Co.
905 Four Seasons Rd.
Bloomington, Illinois 61701
2. W. Atlee Burpee Co.
Box B-2001
Clinton, Iowa 52732
3. Farmer Seed and Nursery Co.
Faribault, Minnesota 55021
4. Henry Field Seed and Nursery Co.
Shenandoah, Iowa 51602
5. Gurney Seed and Nursery Co.
Yankton, South Dakota 57079
6. Joseph Harris Co.
Moreton Farm
Rochester, New York 14624
7. The Chas. A. Hart Seed Co.
Wethersfield, Connecticut 06109
8. J. W. Jung Seed Co.
Randolph, Wisconsin 53956
9. Letherman's Inc.
1221 East Tuscarawas St.
Canton, Ohio 44707
10. Earl May Seed and Nursery Co.
Shenandoah, Iowa 51603
11. L. L. Olds Seed Co.
P. O. Box 7790
2901 Packers Avenue
Madison, Wisconsin 53707
12. George W. Park Seed Co., Inc.
Greenwood, South Carolina 29647
13. R. H. Shumway Seedsman
P. O. Box 777
Rockford, Illinois 61101
14. Sieger's Seed Co.
7245 Imlay City Rd.
Imlay City, Michigan 48444
15. Stokes Seeds, Inc.
737 Main St.
P. O. Box 548
Buffalo, New York 14240
16. Otis S. Twilley Seed Co.
P. O. Box 65
Trevose, Pennsylvania 19047

Average Length of 32° F. Frost-Free Period (Days)



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Vegetable Planting Chart

VEGETABLE	Planting Times*	Weeks from Seeding to Transplanting	Depth to Plant (inches)	Amount of Seed	Days to Maturity	Planting Distance (inches)			Row Length (feet)	Estimated Production
						In Rows After Thinning	Between Rows	Row Length		
Asparagus	April		6 to 8	12 plants	2 to 3 yrs.	12 to 18	36 to 60	20	6 pounds	
Beans, Lima	May 20-Jun. 1		1 to 2	1/2 pound	65 to 90	3 to 4	18 to 24	50	4 pounds shelled	
Beans, Snap	Apr. 20-Jun. 30		1 to 2	1/4 pound	50 to 70	3 to 4	18 to 24	15	7 pounds	
Beets	Mar. 20-Apr. 20		1/2 to 1	1/4 ounce	60 to 80	2 to 3	18 to 24	25	25 pounds	
Broccoli	Mar. 20-Apr. 20, Jun. 20-30		(plants)	12 plants	55 to 75	18 to 24	30	25	10 pounds	
Brussels Sprouts	Apr. 1-20, Jun. 20-30		(plants)	15 plants	90 to 95	18 to 24	30	25	8 pounds	
Cabbage	Apr. 1-20, Jun. 20-30		(plants)	6 plants	65 to 100	18 to 24	24 to 30	12	6 heads	
Carrots	Apr. 1-10		1/2 to 1	1/2 pkt.	65 to 85	1 to 2	18 to 24	15	15 pounds	
Cauliflower	Apr. 1-20, Jun. 20-30		(plants)	5 plants	60 to 95	18 to 24	30	10	5 heads	
Celeriac	Apr. 1-20		1/2	1/8 pkt.	120	4 to 6	18 to 24	10	6 pounds	
Celery	Feb. 20-30, Apr. 20-30		(plants)	30 plants	100 to 125	4 to 8	18 to 24	15	30 stalks	
Chinese Cabbage	Jun. 20-Jul. 30		1/4	1/4 pkt.	60 to 80	12	24 to 30	10	12 heads	
Collards	Apr. 1-20		1/2	1/4 pkt.	75	6 to 8	18 to 24	25	20 pounds	
Cucumbers	May 20-Jun. 20		1 to 2	1/2 pkt.	50 to 70	12	48 to 72	10	6 pounds	
Eggplant	May 20-Jun. 1		(plants)	3 plants	70 to 80	24 to 30	24 to 30	6	12 fruits	
Endive	Mar. 20-Apr. 20		1/2	10 plants	80 to 100	8 to 12	12 to 18	6	10 heads	
Garlic	Mar. 20-Apr. 20		1 1/2	4 cloves	115	3	12 to 18	1	4 bulbs	
Kale	Jun. 20-Jul. 30		1/2 to 1	6 plants	55 to 60	8 to 15	18 to 24	6	6 heads	
Kohlrabi	Mar. 20-Apr. 20, Jun. 20-30		1 to 1 1/2	24 plants	55 to 65	4 to 8	18 to 24	12	24 stems	
Leeks	Mar. 20-Apr. 20		1/2	1 pkt.	130	2 to 3	12 to 18	10	30	
Lettuce (head)	Mar. 20-Apr. 20, July		1/4 to 1/2	18 plants	70 to 85	8 to 15	12 to 18	15	15 heads	
Lettuce (leaf)	Mar. 20-Apr. 30, July		1/4 to 1/2	1 pkt.	45 to 55	6	12 to 18	5	2 1/2 pounds	
Muskmelon	May 20-Jun. 1		1 to 2	1/2 pkt.	80 to 90	36 to 48	48 to 60	16	18 fruits	
Mustard	Apr. 20-May 20, August		1/2	1/4 pkt.	35 to 45	6 to 8	18 to 24	10	5 pounds	
Okra	May 20-Jun. 1		1/2	1/4 pkt.	50 to 60	12 to 15	24 to 30	8	5 pounds	
Onion (sets)	Mar. 20-Apr. 20		1 to 2	1/4 pound	90	2	12 to 18	10	5 pounds	
Onion (transplants)	Mar. 20-Apr. 20		(plants)	120	90 to 115	2 to 3	12 to 18	30	25 pounds	
Onion (seeds)	Mar. 20-Apr. 10		1/2	1 pkt.	105 to 130	2 to 3	12 to 18	30	25 pounds	
Parsnips	Apr. 1-20		1/2	1/4 pkt.	100 to 120	3 to 4	18 to 24	15	15 pounds	
Peas	Mar. 20-May 15		1 to 2	1 pound	55 to 70	2 to 3	12 to 18	100	28 pounds	
Peppers	May 20-Jun. 1, July 15		(plants)	6 plants	60 to 80	14 to 18	24 to 30	10	6 pounds	
Pop Corn	May 20-Jun. 1		2 to 2 1/2	1/4 pkt.	90 to 120	10 to 12	30 to 36	25	1 peck	
Potatoes	Apr. 20-Jun. 1		4	5 pounds	100 to 120	10 to 12	24 to 36	50	50 pounds	
Potatoes, Sweet	May 20-Jun. 1		(plants)	25 plants	150	12 to 18	36	25	10 pounds	
Pumpkins	May 20-Jun. 1		1/2	1/4 pkt.	100 to 120	36 to 48	60 to 96	3	30 pounds	
Radishes	Mar. 20-Apr. 20, July		1/2	1 pkt.	25 to 30	1 to 2	6 to 12	12	8 pounds	
Rhubarb	Mar. 20-Apr. 30		(plants)	3 plants	1 to 2 yrs.	36 to 48	48	9	8 pounds	
Rutabaga	Jun. 1-20		1/2	1/4 pkt.	90 to 95	4 to 6	18 to 24	15	15 pounds	
Salsify	Apr. 1-20		1/2	1/4 pkt.	120	3 to 4	18 to 24	5	5 pounds	
Spinach	Mar. 20-Apr. 20, July		1/4 to 1/2	1/4 ounce	40 to 50	3 to 6	12 to 18	10	5 pounds	
Squash (Summer)	May 20-Jun. 1		1 to 1 1/2	1/4 pkt.	45 to 60	36 to 48	36 to 48	2	4 hills	
Squash (Winter)	May 20-Jun. 1		1 to 1 1/2	1 pkt.	85 to 110	48 to 60	60 to 72	4	10 fruits	
Sweet Corn	Apr. 20-July 1		2 to 2 1/2	1/4 pound	65 to 95	10 to 12	30 to 36	25	2 rows	
Swiss Chard	Apr. 1-20		1/2	1/4 pkt.	50 to 60	6 to 8	18 to 24	8	7 pounds	
Tomatoes	May 20-Jun. 1		(plants)	10 plants	60 to 90	24 to 36	36 to 48	40	3 bushel	
Turnips	July		1 to 1 1/2	1/4 pkt.	40 to 60	4 to 6	18 to 24	20	20 pounds	
Watermelons	May 20-Jun. 1		1 to 2	1/4 pkt.	85 to 95	72 to 96	72 to 96	2	4 melons	

* Planting times are based on conditions at East Lansing. Change these times to suit your location.