

July Plantings for the Fall Garden

by James A. Fizzell, Sr. Ext. Adviser
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Many vegetables may be grown for the fall garden with great success. For those with limited space the fall garden is a must.

Anytime after July 1, sow carrot, radish, turnip, Chinese cabbage and kohlrabi seeds. Chinese cabbage tends to grow better as a fall crop than as a spring crop. Harvest when it is three to four inches tall for salad greens or allow to form heads.

Radishes are favorites of many gardeners, since they grow so quickly. Icicle, Champion and Red Prince varieties work quite well. These varieties are ready to harvest in less than 30 days.

Turnips should have an equal part in the fall garden. Sow seeds in rows for ease when weeding. Mix seeds with dried coffee grounds to help eliminate clusters of seeds when sowing the seeds. Turnips are tasty raw as well as cooked, says Mr. Fizzell.

Carrots are the all time favorites of gardeners. Scarlet Nantes, Royal Chantenay and Danvers Half Long are a few suggested varieties. Carrots are slow to germinate in hot weather, mix and sow radish and carrot seeds together. The radish seeds will germinate first breaking the soil surface and showing off the row. Remove the radishes as they mature there-by leaving room for the carrots to grow.

Leaf lettuce may be planted every two weeks starting in mid-July. Try varieties such as Salad bowl, Black seeded Simpson and Grand Rapids.

Other crops that do well in fall gardens are spinach, beets, swiss chard, mustard, and beans. To have success with your fall garden follow these easy steps. Sow seeds at 1½ to 2 times the recommended depth. Cover with a light mulch to keep the soil cool and prevent crusting, or cover each row with a board. Check each morning and remove the board when seedlings have come up.

Keep adequate and constant moisture. Establish a regular watering, feeding, and spraying program.

Insects which were a problem in the spring gardens are often of little concern to the fall gardeners. Many insects have already completed their life cycles by then.

“Fire Cracker Time”

How many shades of Blue does Wilt Demand,

Before turning to straw on command?

Rich colors of infectious disease,

Has brought many Super's to Their knees.

Let's hope it never happens to You,

Basking in the Sun, neath a Sky of Blue.

But if it does, don't dismay,

Most every Super's faced such a Day.

Fourth of July Firecrackers will find room,

To Pinwheel and Skyrocket, touch the Moon.

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