

# HOME VEGETABLE GARDEN

Lassen-Plumas-Sierra Counties  
Cooperative Extension  
University of California



## HOME VEGETABLE GARDENING

Your home vegetable garden can provide fresh vegetables nearly the year round. You'll find the first pages of this publication devoted to general cultural methods. Following these, the common garden crops are taken up, one by one giving briefly the culture of each. With such brief treatment, some questions will remain unanswered. When problems arise, you are invited to contact the Farm Advisor's Office in your area. In Lassen County at 707 Nevada St., Susanville, phone 257-6363. In Plumas-Sierra Counties contact the Farm Advisor's Office in Quincy, located at 208 Fairgrounds Rd., or phone 283-6270. Home gardens will be most successful if each crop is grown during the period most favorable for it's development. The front page includes a list of the vegetables, an index and a calendar for easy reference for the 4,000 to 4,200 feet elevation areas. The first page also includes a table showing how many growing days can be expected at what elevations. On page two, there is a map of the larger growing areas and the elevation of these areas. You can refer to the elevation-growing days table on page one for quick reference to growing days in your particular area..

Every gardener soon learns that there is no such thing as a normal growing season. A 140 day growing season may be 160 one year and 110 days the next year.

The area that takes in most of Lassen, Plumas and Sierra Counties is an area of extreme variation in elevations and growing seasons. Spring weather can fluctuate from sub-freezing at night to the upper 60's and 70's in mid-afternoon. Many areas have a 130 to 140 day growing season.

In the 100 day areas the last frost date is around May 30th. July temperatures average 58-66'.

In these high elevation areas there's no chance for sweet corn, winter squash, peppers and other frost-sensitive long-season crops.

Most root crops, however, beets, carrots, onion sets, and potatoes produce beautifully if planted early. All cool season leafy vegetables that can be harvested before they are mature can be grown successfully.

In the lower elevation areas where the growing season is 120-140 days and the temperatures reach in the 80's and 90's in mid-July some of the early maturing types of sweet corn, winter squash and other warm season crops can be successful.

Some crops may be planted somewhat earlier, if frost protection is afforded them.

Usually hot caps are used for frost protection.

Cucumber, melon and squash transplants should not be transplanted bare root. They are usually grown in decomposable plant containers and the entire container is placed in the soil at planting, so the soil around the roots is not disturbed. From seeding to transplant size will require 6 to 8 weeks for crops like tomatoes, peppers, and eggplants. Cucumber, melon and squash will reach transplant size in 3 to 4 weeks after seeding.

### LAYOUT AND SIZE OF GARDEN

The amount of time available and the ability and experience of the gardener are important factors in determining the size and type of the garden. Time to care for and harvest of the crops throughout the season should be anticipated before planting.

Gardens ranging from 100 sq. ft. to 900 sq. ft. will furnish part of the average family's needs. With double cropping, an area of 2,000 to 3,000 sq. ft. will supply most of the family's requirements. For small gardens, the number of different crops should be limited

rather than trying every crop suggested.

Where ample land is available, the size and shape of the garden should fit the tools and equipment to be used. On a ranch, garden rows may well match the commercial crops grown, so the same cultivators, etc., may be used for the garden crops. Row spacing given for each crop is minimum spacing. There is no hard and fast rule in this regard. Individual convenience and desire may well be followed. Spacing of plants in the row is, however, definite, and should be followed

#### LOCATION AND SOIL

Your garden needs adequate sunshine. Few crops will do well if shaded. The plot should be away from trees, buildings etc., that will shade the garden plants the greater part of the day. However, windbreaks of trees or buildings that will protect the garden are advantageous.

A sandy loam soil is the best garden soil. The clays or heavy soils may produce just as well if managed properly. An adequate water supply near the garden plot is essential.

#### AMOUNT TO PLANT

The amount suggested for each crop should yield a moderate supply for a family of four.

#### FERTILIZER

The productivity of any soil can be improved with a generous application of manure. Manure should be spread uniformly and then worked into the soil by spading or plowing.

Rates of Manure to Use:

		Pounds per Square Foot
Barnyard manure - (contains straw)	1 lb./sq. ft.	
Steer manure	1 lb./3 sq. ft.	0.3 (5 ounces)
Sheep manure	1 lb./3 sq. ft.	0.3 (5 ounces)
Chicken or Rabbit manure	1 lb./5 sq.ft.	0.25 (4 ounces)
Compost	1 lb./3 sq. ft.	0.3 (5 ounces)

#### INORGANIC METHOD

Inorganic fertilizers are available in various combinations of nitrogen, phosphorus, potash, and minor elements and are good sources of plant food and may be used alone or to supplement manures. A complete fertilizer such as 10-10-5, which contains 10% nitrogen, 10% phosphorus, and 5% potassium by weight, is often used. It may be spread evenly over the soil and spaded in, or it can be spread down a furrow about 3 inches from the seed row and covered over at planting time.

Inorganic Fertilizers:

Example:

Complete (10-10-5) 3 lbs./100 sq. ft.  
Ammonium phosphate (16-20-0) 2 lbs./100 sq. ft.\*  
Ammonium sulfate (21- 0-0) 2 lbs./100 sq. ft.  
Ammonium nitrate (33- 0-0) 1 lb. /100 sq. ft.

## ORGANIC METHOD

If organic gardening is your goal it may be advisable to apply a double rate application of manure or compost 3 to 4 months before the first year's planting. Following the rates of manure suggested on a yearly basis may be sufficient to maintain a reasonable level of fertility, but may not be enough to start the organic gardening project. High nitrogen requiring crops like sweet corn, tomatoes, and potatoes may need additional organic fertilizer to obtain reasonable yields and quality.

Organic Fertilizers:

Example:

Cotton seed meal	( 7-3-2) 4 lbs./100 sq. ft.
Dried blood	(13-2-0) 2 lbs./100 sq. ft.
Fish meal	(10-6-0) 3 lbs./100 sq. ft.
Tankage	( 7-9-2) 4 lbs./100 sq. ft.

## BEDS OR FLAT PLANTING

Most vegetables may be planted either on raised beds or on the flat. Raised beds serve better for winter crops. No hard and fast rule can be set for shape and size of beds.

Suggested are ridges 30 inches from center to center, 15

inches across top. Double row beds will then have about 10 Inches between rows. With plants that are grown one row per ridge, it is usually preferable to plant near on edge of the ridge in order for the young plant to receive ample water.

When flat planting is used, it may be desirable to construct shallow furrows close to and on both sides of the row to insure sufficient water for the young plants. These furrows later may be cultivated in, and a larger permanent furrow can be made midway between the row.

Where the garden is planted on a slope, the furrows should be run across the slope. On level land, the rows should run north and south, particularly for winter gardens.

## IRRIGATION

Irrigation water can be applied by sprinkling or by the furrow method. It is important to apply sufficient water and at proper intervals. Definite suggestions for different crops will be found on the following pages. The depth of penetration may be tested by the use of a sharp stick or other probe. Sprinkling may be necessary to germinate seed, particularly in starting early fall gardens. The soil surface should be kept moist until plants appear.

## CULTIVATION - WEED CONTROL

Cultivation is mainly for weed control. The soil should not be allowed to bake around the base of the plants. Hand hoeing is the safest weed control method. Herbicides used in commercial farming are difficult to apply at the recommended rate to small areas. Before using any herbicide, inspect the label for crops that may be safely treated. Herbicide residues may interfere with germination of seeds planted for the next crop season.

## INSECT PESTS

An all-purpose vegetable dust may be the simplest insect control treatment. For information on insect control, secure the bulletins entitled: "Insects and Diseases of Vegetables in the Home Garden", and "Controlling Nematodes in the Home Garden", at

the Agricultural Extension Service Office.

#### PRESERVATION

Leaflets on the use of vegetables and home preservation are available at the Agricultural Extension Service, Farm and Home Advisor's Office.

#### ASPARAGUS

**HARDINESS** Perennial, will withstand freezing.

**VARIETIES** 500 W, Mary Washington.

**WHAT TO PLANT** -- Plant 1-year-old crowns or seed.

**PLANTING DATES** -- March, April (Crowns).

May, June (Seeds).

**DEPTH OF PLANTING** -- Plant crowns in trench 6-8 Inches deep and cover to a depth of 3 inches.

Seed -- Plant 1 inch deep in the bottom of a furrow 6 inches deep.

**DAYS TO MATURITY** -- One year from crowns. Two years from seeds.

**AMOUNT TO PLANT** -- 25 to 30 feet.

**ROW SPACING** -- 4 feet.

**PLANT SPACING IN ROW** -- Crowns 12 inches. Seeds 3 inches apart. Is not necessary to thin.

**IRRIGATION** -- During the cutting and fern seasons, irrigate every two weeks until tops die. Moisten soil to a depth of 5 feet at each irrigation.

**CULTURE** -- The first year gradually fill in soil around plants as they grow. In the fall after the tops are dead, they should be cut and removed. There should be at least 6 inches of soil over the crowns during the harvest season.

**DURATION OF BED** -- 15 years.

**HARVESTING** -- Cut 1-2 inches below surface when the spears are 7-8 inches tall. In warm weather, you may need to harvest once a day. Harvest 1-year-old bed for only 3 weeks. The 2-year and older beds may be harvested until about June 15th.

**STORAGE** Quality deteriorates rapidly after cutting. Can be stored 24-48 hours in the refrigerator or frozen.

#### BEANS - SNAP

**HARDINESS** -- Tender, injured by frosts.

**BEST TIME TO GROW** -- During moderately warm weather. Beans set pods poorly in hot weather.

**VARIETIES** -- Bush: Apollo, Tendergreen, Topcrop, Black Wax.

Pole: Kentucky Wonder, Romano, (Pole Italian).

**WHAT TO PLANT** -- Seed. Seed usually treated with a fungicide.

**PLANTING DATES** -- May and Early June.

**DAYS TO MATURITY** -- 50 to 60, bush; 65 to 70 pole.

**AMOUNT TO PLANT** -- Bush: 25 feet of row.

Pole: 25 feet of row.

Teepee Pole: 12 to 15 hills of 3 plants each.

ROW OR BED SPACING -- 30 inches, center to center.

Bush: 1 row per bed.

Pole: 1 row per bed.

Teepee Pole: Hills - 24 Inches on square.

PLANT SPACING IN ROW -- Bush: 2 Inches.

Pole: 2 inches.

Teepee Pole: 3 plants per hill with hills  
2 feet apart.

DEPTH OF SEEDING -- 1 to 1 1/2 inches.

IRRIGATION -- Beans root to a depth of 30 Inches. Wet soil  
to this depth once a week.

CULTURE -- Thin when plants have 2 or 3 leaves. Stake pole beans when the plants start  
to vine.

HARVESTING -- Keep beans picked closely to prolong harvest season.

STORAGE -- Beans can be held in refrigerator about 1 week.

### **BEETS**

HARDINESS -- Hardy, not injured by light freezes.

BEST TIME TO GROW -- Spring and fall.

VARIETIES -- Detroit Dark Red, Early Wonder, Greentop,  
Bunching, Crosby's Egyptian.

WHAT TO PLANT -- Seed.

PLANTING DATES -- March, April, May, July & August.

DAYS TO MATURITY-- 70 days.

AMOUNT TO PLANT -- 8 feet of bed (16 feet of row).

ROW OR BED SPACING -- Use beds or plant on flat. Plant  
2 rows on beds 30 inches center to center. Space rows 10 inches apart on bed.

PLANT SPACING IN ROW -- 1 to 2 inches after thinning; however, sow 2 seeds per  
inch.

DEPTH OF SEEDING -- 3/4 of an inch.

IRRIGATION -- Keep soil moist around seed until plants are up.

Irrigate every 10 to 14 days. Water to wet soil to a depth of 30 inches at each irrigation

CULTURE -- Thin plants when young, if too thick. Control weeds by shallow  
cultivation.

HARVESTING -- As with other root crops. Start using beets  
as soon as the largest reach edible size, (1 inch in diameter). Do as much of the thinning  
as possible while harvesting. This will lengthen the harvest season. The tops can be used  
for greens.

STORAGE -- Store in ground.

### **BROCCOLI - SPROUTING**

HARDINESS -- Hardy, resistant to light freezes.

BEST TIME TO GROW -- Late April and May plantings for harvest  
during the late Fall.

VARIETIES -- Ferry-Morse 4638, Medium 145, Topper 43.

WHAT TO PLANT -- Use transplants or seed and thin to 12 inches.  
PLANTING DATES -- Transplants -- Late April to May.  
DAYS TO MATURITY -- 100 from set plants. 140 days from seed.  
(FM-4638, 80 from seed).  
AMOUNT TO PLANT -- 12 to 15 plants.  
ROW OR BED SPACING -- Use 30-inch beds (1 row per bed), or plant on flat using 2-1/2 feet spacing between rows.  
PLANT SPACING IN ROW -- 12 inches.  
IRRIGATION -- Water immediately after transplanting, then once every 10 to 14 days depending on the weather. Moisten soil to a depth of 30 inches at each irrigation.  
CULTURE -- Keep weeds down. Cultivate shallow.  
INSECTS PESTS -- Aphids, cabbage worms.  
HARVESTING -- Cut heads just before buds open. Cut stem 6 inches below bud cluster. After center bud is cut, side shoots produce edible buds. A several month harvest season is possible during the late summer and fall. Do not let any heads flower; this will shorten the harvest season.  
STORAGE -- Can be held as long as 3 weeks in refrigerator, can be frozen.

### **CABBAGE**

HARDINESS -- Young plants will stand light freezes. Mature heads may be injured by frosts.  
BEST TIME TO GROW -- Early Fall.  
VARIETIES -- Early: Copenhagen Market, Golden Acre, Jersey Wakefield.  
Late: Slow Bolting Flat Dutch, Greenback, Savor, Late Flat Dutch.

WHAT TO PLANT -- Use transplants, or direct seed and thin.  
PLANTING DATES -- Plants: April, May  
DAYS TO MATURITY -- 80 to 100 for plants, 45 days longer when seeded.  
AMOUNT TO PLANT -- At the fall planting, set out 12 to 15 plants each of an early and late variety.  
ROW SPACING -- 30 inches. One row per bed or plant flat.  
PLANT SPACING IN ROW -- 18 inches.  
IRRIGATION -- Water immediately after transplanting, then every 7 to 14 days. At each irrigation, apply sufficient water to moisten soil to a depth of 20 inches.  
INSECTS-PESTS -- Aphids, cabbage worms, cutworms and slugs, harlequin cabbage bug.  
HARVESTING -- Cut heads when fairly firm and before they burst open.  
STORAGE -- Can be held for 1 to 2 months in cool, moist location.

### **CARROTS**

HARDINESS -- Not injured by light freezes.  
BEST TIME TO GROW -- Spring and fall.  
VARIETIES -- Fresh: Long Imperator, Gold Pak, Nantes.  
Processing: Royal Chantenay, Red Core, Chantenay Danners.  
WHAT TO PLANT -- Seed.

PLANTING DATES -- April, May and July.

DAYS TO MATURITY -- 75 to 90 days.

ROW SPACING -- Beds 20 inches, center to center. Two rows per bed with rows 10 inches apart on bed. Use 15 inches between rows for flat planting.

DEPTH OF PLANTING: 1/2 inch.

AMOUNT TO PLANT -- 10 feet of bed, 15 feet of row.

PLANT SPACING IN ROW -- 1 to 2 inches. However, sow 6 to 8 seeds per inch.

IRRIGATION -- Several light irrigation's may be necessary to germinate seeds. After the plants are up, lengthen the interval between irrigation's.

After a month, water every 7 to 14 days. Carrots root to a depth of 4 feet and the soil should be moistened to this level.

CULTURE -- In hot weather, shading the young plants for a few days after they come up will help prevent plant losses.

HARVESTING -- Start using when largest carrots are as large as a finger. Do as much of the thinning as possible while harvesting.

STORAGE -- Store in ground until used.

### **CUCUMBERS**

HARDINESS -- Easily injured by frost. Require warm weather.

BEST TIME TO GROW -- During spring, after danger of frost is past.

VARIETIES -- Slicing: Ohio MR, Marketer, Ashley, Lemon.

Pickling: SMR-58, Pioneer, Chipper.

WHAT TO PLANT -- Seed.

PLANTING DATES -- May, June.

DAYS TO MATURITY -- 75 days. Pickling, 60 days.

AMOUNT TO PLANT -- 2 to 3 hills of 3 plants each for fresh use per family, 15 hills for pickles.

ROW SPACING -- 4 feet.

PLANT SPACING IN ROW-- 2 feet between hills.

DEPTH OF SEEDING -- 1 inch.

IRRIGATION -- Keep soil moist until seeds germinate. Then irrigate every 7 to 10 days. Apply sufficient water to wet soil to a depth of 3 feet.

CULTURE -- Plant 5 to 7 seeds per hill. Thin to 3 plants, when plants have 3 or 4 leaves. Handle vines no more than necessary.

HARVESTING -- Keep cucumbers picked off in order to keep the plants bearing. Use soon after harvest.

INSECTS-PESTS -- Diabrotica (cucumber beetle), aphids, thrips, cutworms and slugs, DO NOT use sulfur on cucumbers.

CROSSING-- Cucumbers will not cross with melons or squash.

### **GARLIC**

HARDINESS -- Hardy, will stand extreme cold.

BEST TIME TO GROW -- Fall, plant before ground freezes.

VARIETIES -- California Early, California Late, Creole.

WHAT TO PLANT -- Cloves.

PLANTING DATES -- September, March.  
DAYS TO MATURITY -- 240-300 days.  
AMOUNT TO PLANT -- 10-20 foot row.  
PLANT SPACING IN ROW -- Place cloves three inches apart.  
IRRIGATION -- Garlic is shallow rooted and requires frequent watering. Keep top foot of soil moist at all times.  
FERTILIZER -- Garlic will respond to a band of fertilizer such as 16-20 side dressed to the side of the plants in early spring.  
CULTURE -- Keep weed free for maximum production. Work soil between rows and around plants for weed control.  
HARVEST AND STORAGE -- Plants can be harvested when tops begin to die. If only a few plants, tops can be braided and the rope of the garlic hung in a cool dry place for use as needed.

### **LETTUCE**

HARDINESS -- Hardy, will stand slight frost.  
BEST TIME TO GROW -- Leaf lettuce: Fall and spring.  
VARIETIES -- Leaf Lettuce: Prizehead, Black Seeded, Simpson, Salad Bowl, Romaine (Cos.). Leaf lettuce is the most satisfactory for home gardens.  
PLANTING DATES -- Leaf Lettuce: April, May, August.  
DAYS TO MATURITY -- Leaf Lettuce: 50 days.  
AMOUNT TO PLANT -- 10 to 15 feet of row. Successive plantings may be made at 3-week intervals.  
BED OR ROW SPACING -- Plants on beds or on flat. Plant 2 rows per bed with rows 10 inches apart.  
DEPTH OF SEEDING -- 1/4 to 1/2 inch.  
IRRIGATION -- Keep surface soil moist until seed germinates. After the lettuce is up, irrigate every 7 to 10 days.  
INSECTS - PESTS -- Cutworms and slugs.  
HARVESTING -- Leaf Lettuce: Pick large outer leaves and allow center leaves to continue to grow.

### **MELONS - PUMPKINS - WINTER SQUASH**

HARDINESS -- Tender, are killed by frost.  
BEST TIME TO GROW -- Late spring.  
VARIETIES -- Muskmelons: Cantaloupe -- Top Mark, King Henry,  
Hales Best No. 45  
Pumpkins: Kentucky Field, Sugar Pie, Jack-O-Lantern  
Squash (small): Table Queen, Butternut.  
Squash (Large): Banana, Hubbard.  
PLANTING DATES -- April, May  
DAYS TO MATURITY -- Melons: 90 to 110 days.  
Squash (small): 70 days.  
Squash (large): 120 days.  
AMOUNT TO PLANT -- 5 to 10 hills.  
DEPTH OF PLANTING -- 1 to 1- 1/2 inches.

ROW SPACING -- Muskmelons 6 ft., pumpkins 8 ft., small squash 5 ft., large squash 8 ft.

PLANT SPACING -- Muskmelons 3 ft., pumpkins 6 ft., small squash 4 ft., large squash 6 ft.

IRRIGATION -- These plants root deeply. Water should penetrate to 5 feet. Irrigate at 1 to 2 week intervals depending on temperature. Plant 5 seeds per hill. When third leaf appears, thin to 2 per hill. Vines can be turned away from irrigation furrow.

STORAGE -- Squash and pumpkins can be stored for 2 to 3 months in a dry place at about 50 degrees F.

### **OKRA**

HARDINESS -- Tender, killed by frost.

BEST TIME TO GROW -- Late spring.

VARIETIES -- Perkins Spineless, Clemson Spineless, Dwarf Green Long Pod.

WHAT TO PLANT -- Seed.

PLANTING DATES -- May, June.

DAYS TO MATURITY -- 60 days. Slightly longer for April plantings.

DEPTH OF PLANTING -- 1 to 1-1/2 inches.

AMOUNT TO PLANT -- 20 to 25 feet of row.

ROW OR BED SPACING -- 30 inches. Plant one row per bed or on flat.

PLANT SPACING IN ROW -- Thin to one plant 12 to 15 inches apart.

IRRIGATION -- Irrigate at 1 to 2 week intervals. Keep soil moist to 3 feet depth

INSECTS - PESTS -- Aphids, Mites.

DISEASE -- Verticillium Wilt.

HARVESTING -- Pick pods when young. Plants stop producing if pods are allowed to ripen.

STORAGE -- Can be held a week in refrigerator.

### **DRY ONIONS**

HARDINESS -- Will stand light freezes when young.

BEST TIME TO GROW -- Early spring plantings for summer and fall harvest.

VARIETIES -- Early: California Early Red, Grano, Early Yellow Globe.

Late: Sweet Spanish, Southport White Globe, Southport

Red Globe

WHAT TO PLANT -- Use transplants or set for early varieties. Use seed for late varieties.

PLANTING DATES -- Early: March, April (transplants).

March, April (sets).

March, April, May (seed).

DAYS TO MATURITY -- Early: 150 days; Late: 200 to 240 days.

AMOUNT TO PLANT -- 300 transplants or 2 pounds of sets will produce about 100 pounds of onions.

ROW OR BED SPACING -- Plant 2 rows on 30-inch bed with 10 inches between the rows or on flat, 15 inches between the rows.

PLANT SPACING IN ROW -- 3 inches.

IRRIGATION -- Onions are shallow rooted and require frequent waterings. Keep top

foot of soil moist at all times.

CULTURE -- Cultivate very shallow. Don't bend or break over tops before bulbs are full grown.

INSECTS-PESTS -- Onion thrips.

HARVESTING -- The tops will break over when mature. Allow soil to become fairly dry before pulling. Pull cut off tops, and spread onions in a well ventilated place to cure for 10 days.

STORAGE -- Can be stored for several months in a cool, dry location. Late varieties are best for storage.

### **GREEN ONIONS**

HARDINESS -- Will stand light freezes when young.

BEST TIME TO GROW -- Fall, and early spring.

VARIETIES -- Any white variety: Evergreen Bunching, Crystal White Wax, White Sweet Spanish.

WHAT TO PLANT-- Seed, Sets, or Transplants.

PLANTING DATES -- Seed: April, May

Sets: April, May, July, August

DAYS TO MATURITY-- Bunching - 75 to 100 days from seed.

AMOUNT TO PLANT -- 10 feet of bed or 20 feet single row.

ROW OR BED SPACING -- Plant 1, 2 or 3 rows per bed with 4-6 inches between rows.

PLANT SPACING IN ROW -- 1/2 to 1 inch.

IRRIGATION-- Onions are shallow rooted and require frequent waterings. Keep top foot of soil moist at all times.

FERTILIZER -- Onions will respond to a band of fertilizer, 3 inches directly under or 1 to 2 inches to the side of the seed at planting time.

CULTURE -- Cultivate very shallow. Don't bend over tops. Pulling soil around stem as they grow will produce more white stem.

INSECTS-PESTS -- Onion thrips.

HARVESTING -- Plants can be pulled by hand if soil is moist, or under-cut the plants with a knife or shovel. Tie in bunches.

STORAGE -- Green onions can be stored under cool, moist conditions for a week.

### **PEAS**

HARDINESS -- Young plants are hardy to frosts, but blossoms and pods are injured.

BEST TIME TO GROW-- This is a cool season crop. Grow only during spring.

VARIETIES -- Bush: Progress #9, Little Marvel,

Pole: Alderman

Edible Pod: Melting Sugar

WHAT TO PLANT -- Seed. Seed usually is treated with Arasan or Spergon.

PLANTING DATES -- March, April.

DAYS TO MATURITY -- 90 to 130 days.

AMOUNT TO PLANT -- Plant 25 feet of row.

ROW OR BED SPACING -- 2 rows per bed (30 inches center to center) or 1 row each 15 Inches on flat plantings.

PLANT SPACING IN ROW -- 1 inch.

DEPTH OF SEEDING -- 1 inch.

IRRIGATION -- Irrigation necessary only when rains are insufficient.

CULTURE -- The soil should be moist at the time of planting. If necessary, pre-irrigate.

INSECTS-PESTS -- Aphids, and thrips.

HARVESTING -- Harvest when pods are well-filled and use immediately.

### **LIMA BEANS** (Large)

Can be grown about the same as snap beans; should be planted in May. Fordhook, Henderson Baby Bush and Early Thorogreen are good bush varieties and King of Garden is a good pole type.

### **PEPPERS**

HARDINESS -- Tender, easily injured by frost.

BEST TIME TO GROW -- During summer after danger of frost is past.

VARIETIES -- Sweet: California Wonder, Yolo Wonder B.

Hot: Anaheim Chili, Floral Gem, Jalapeno.

WHAT TO PLANT -- Transplants.

PLANTING DATES -- April and May.

DATES TO MATURITY -- 90 to 110 days.

AMOUNT TO PLANT -- 12 to 15 plants.

ROW OR BED SPACING -- Plant on beds or on flat. Use 1 row per bed or 30 inches between rows on flat.

PLANT SPACING IN ROW -- 15 inches.

IRRIGATION -- Irrigate thoroughly after transplanting. Then irrigate at 1 to 2 week intervals. Moisten soil to depth of 3 feet.

FRUIT SET -- Peppers may be set poorly when night temperatures are low or the days very hot.

INSECTS-PESTS -- Cutworms, fruit worms.

DISEASES -- Mosaic: Avoid use of tobacco while working with peppers. Handle plants no more than necessary.

HARVESTING -- Harvest fruits either green or red.

STORAGE -- Can be held for 4 to 6 weeks in a cool place.

### **IRISH POTATOES**

HARDINESS -- Fairly tender, but will endure light frosts when young.

BEST TIME TO GROW -- Early spring.

VARIETIES -- White: White Rose, Russet Netted Gem, Kennebec

Red: Red Lasoda, Pontiac.

WHAT TO PLANT -- Use certified seed, if possible. (By seed we refer to potato sections.)

PLANTING DATES-- April, May

DAYS TO MATURITY -- 80 days to creamer size, 120 to full maturity.

AMOUNT TO PLANT -- 10 pounds per 100 feet of row. Cut seed potatoes into pieces which weigh 1 to 2 ounces with each piece having one eye or more.

ROW SPACING -- 30 inches.

SEED SPACING IN ROW -- 10 inches.

PLANT AND FERTILIZE -- Make a trench 6 inches wide and 4 inches deep.

Spread evenly inside of trench 1 pint of 16-20-0, or 1 1/2 pints of 10-10-5 fertilizer to 25 feet of trench. Place 2 inches of soil in trench. Place seed pieces in center of trench.

Cover with soil. As plants begin to emerge, ridge soil over seed about 8 inches.

IRRIGATION -- Irrigate twice a week after the plants are up.

CULTURE -- Maintain ridges so that the new potatoes will be kept covered.

HARVESTING -- Dig as soon as they reach edible size. Dig as needed until they are fully mature. When mature, withhold the water for 10 days, then dig and store.

STORAGE -- Can be held for 2 to 3 months in a cool, moist place.

### **RADISH**

HARDINESS -- Will stand light frosts.

BEST TIME TO GROW -- Cool weather- late fall, early spring.

VARIETIES -- Cherry Belle, Comet, French Breakfast, Crimson Giant, Sparkler.

WHAT TO PLANT -- Seed.

PLANTING DATES -- March, April, May, September

DAYS TO MATURITY -- Fertilized - 22-30 days.

Unfertilized - 40-60 days.

AMOUNT TO PLANT -- 10 feet of bed, or 20 feet of row.

ROW OR BED SPACING -- Plant 1,2, or 3 rows per bed, with 4 to 6 inches between rows on the bed.

PLANT SPACING IN ROW -- 1 inch.

IRRIGATION -- Keep bed moist. Irrigate once or twice a week. Plants have shallow roots.

CULTURE -- Cultivate very shallow for weed control.

INSECTS-PESTS -- Sometimes aphids, slugs or snails.

HARVESTING -- Pull sized roots from moist soil. Tie into bunches or clip tops.

STORAGE -- Can be stored about 1 week in cool moist conditions.

### **SUMMER SQUASH**

HARDINESS -- Tender, and are killed by frosts.

BEST TIME TO GROW -- During warm weather. May through August.

VARIETIES -- Zucchini, Yellow Crookneck, Early Prolific, Straightneck, White Bush Scallop.

WHAT TO PLANT -- Seed.

PLANTING DATES -- May and June

DAYS TO MATURITY -- 60 days.

AMOUNT TO PLANT -- 4 to 5 hills of any variety. Plant 5 or 6 seeds per hill.

ROW SPACING -- Space rows 4 feet apart.

PLANT SPACING -- 1 plant per hill, hills 30 inches apart.

DEPTH OF SEEDING -- 1- 1/2 inches.

IRRIGATION -- Keep soil moist around seed until plants emerge, then irrigate every 2 weeks moistening soil to a depth of 3 or 4 feet.

CULTURE -- Thin plants to 1 per hill after they have 3 true leaves. Use shallow

cultivation to control weeds. Protect early plantings from frost with caps.

**HARVESTING** -- Keep all fruits picked to keep new blossoms forming. Allowing a few squash to mature will stop blossoming and shorten harvest period.

**STORAGE** -- Squash may be held for a few days in refrigerator.

### **STRAWBERRIES**

**TYPE OF PLANT** -- The strawberry is a perennial plant that takes 1 year to become established and will then bear for 2 more seasons.

**VARIETIES** -- Shasta, 20th Century, Rockhill, Washington, Northwest.

**PLANTING DATES** -- March, April, September.

**AMOUNT TO PLANT** -- 10 to 15 feet of row.

**ROW OR BED SPACING** -- Use beds or plant on flat. Plant rows 20 inches apart.

**PLANT SPACING IN ROW** -- 10 inches.

**IRRIGATION** -- Irrigate every week and moisten soil to a depth of 2 feet at each irrigation; during harvest season water every 3 to 5 days. The furrow or sprinkler method of irrigation may be used.

**CULTURE** -- Do not cover crown of plant with soil. Use the runner plants that develop during the first year to fill rows of plants. The runner plants will root if pushed slightly into loose soil. Cut others off. Plants should be 10 inches apart. Runner plants should not be allowed to root in the furrows.

**HARVESTING** -- Spring bearing varieties will start to produce normally about April 20th, and will extend until June 15th or later. Harvest only fully ripe berries. Everbearing varieties will produce in spring and fall with few during the hot summer.

**STORAGE** -- Strawberries should be eaten, canned, or frozen within a day or two after harvest.

### **SWEET CORN**

**HARDINESS** -- Tender, may stand very light frost.

**BEST TIME TO GROW** -- Spring and summer.

**VARIETIES** -- Bonanza, Earlibelle, Peaches and Cream, Silver Queen.

**WHAT TO PLANT**-- Seed.

**PLANTING DATES** -- April, May.

**DAYS TO MATURITY** -- 90 to 100 days.

**AMOUNT TO PLANT** -- 50 feet of row at one time. Make successive plantings every 2 or 3 weeks, 1/4 pound of seed will plant 200 feet.

**ROW SPACING** -- 30 inches.

**PLANT SPACING IN ROW** -- Thin to 12 inches.

**DEPTH OF SEEDING** -- 1-1/2 inches.

**IRRIGATION** -- Be sure the soil is moist for proper germination. After plants are up, irrigate every 7 to 10 days. Moisten soil to a depth of 3 feet.

**CULTURE** -- It is better to plant several short rows of sweet corn than one long row to get good pollination. Corn can be planted on the flat, and wide irrigating furrows can be made after the plants are up.

**FERTILIZER** -- Apply additional treatment of nitrogen fertilizer when plants are 12 inches tall to insure complete ear fill.

INSECTS-PESTS -- Corn earworm: Dust silks of each ear with an all purpose vegetable dust when silks first appear and repeat 3 times at 4-day intervals.

DISEASE -- Sugar cane mosaic virus has caused serious damage to plantings in recent years -- spread by aphids.

HARVESTING -- Pull corn in the milk or dough stage and use immediately. Harvest early in the morning and keep cool until used. Corn can be frozen.

### **SWISS CHARD**

HARDINESS -- Hardy, will stand light freezes.

BEST TIME TO GROW -- One spring planting will provide chard during the following summer, fall and winter.

VARIETIES -- Lucullus, Fordhook Giant, Rhubarb (red).

WHAT TO PLANT-- Seed.

PLANTING DATES -- April, May.

DAYS TO MATURITY-- 50 to 55 days.

AMOUNT TO PLANT -- 10 feet of row.

BED OR ROW SPACING -- Plant on beds or on flat. Use 2 rows per bed with beds spaced 30 inches center to center.

PLANT SPACING IN ROW -- 12 inches after thinning.

DEPTH OF SEEDING -- 3/4 inch.

IRRIGATION -- Keep surface soil moist until seed germinates. Then irrigate every 7 to 10 days. Keep soil moist to a depth of 30 inches.

CULTURE -- Sow 6 to 8 seeds per foot. Thin to 1 plant per foot of row when plants are 6 to 8 inches high. A new seeding should be made each spring.

HARVESTING -- Cut off outside leaves when they reach edible size. Allow center growing point to continue growing. Harvest season will last for several months. Harvest for daily needs.

CAUTION -- DO NOT dust with poisons at any time for control of insects.

### **TOMATOES**

HARDINESS-- Tender, will not withstand frost.

BEST TIME TO GROW -- During warm weather.

VARIETIES -- Early: H-11, 6718, Red Cherry, Calmart, Pakmor.

Late: Ace 55.

WHAT TO PLANT -- Use transplants.

PLANTING DATES -- May

DAYS TO MATURITY -- 85, early varieties; 100 for late; 150 from seed.

AMOUNT TO PLANT -- 8 to 12 plants.

ROW SPACING -- 5 feet (or 4 feet if staked).

PLANT SPACING -- 2 feet (or 15 inches if staked).

IRRIGATION -- Irrigate well, immediately after transplanting. Irrigate every 2 weeks.

Tomatoes root deeply, so water should penetrate to a depth of 5 feet. Tomatoes do not set fruit well when night temperatures drop below 60 degrees F., or when days are above 100 degrees F.

CULTURE -- About a month after the plants have been set, drive a 5-foot stake near the plant. Loosely tie the plant to the stake as it grows. (Calmart and Pakmor do not have to

be staked).

FERTILIZER - Add additional fertilizer when first fruits are developing.

DISEASE - Use resistant varieties when available.

HARVESTING - Pick when fully ripe. In fall, when there is danger of frost, green mature fruits may be picked. These fruits will ripen if held at temperatures of 65 degrees to 75 degrees F. for a few days. Green mature fruits are green colored, but contain some jelly around the seeds.

STORAGE -- Tomatoes can be held for a period of 2 to 5 weeks if held at a temperature of 55 degrees F.

### **CAULIFLOWER**

The culture of cauliflower is very similar to broccoli. Best varieties for the home garden are Snowball "A". Set Snowball plants in garden during May and June. Days to harvest Snowball "A" - 65 days. Harvest as soon as heads fill out.

### **GREENS**

Crops which may be used as greens and have similar culture as Swiss Chard are Spinach (varieties: Califlay, Prickley Winter, Nobel). Mustard (varieties: Southern Giant Curled, Florida Broad Leaf). Kale (varieties: Dwarf Blue Curled, Dwarf Green Scotch, Tall Green Scotch). New Zealand Spinach, Beet and Turnip tops are also satisfactory for greens. Plant New Zealand Spinach, Spinach, Mustard and Kale in April or May for summer green; may also be planted in August for a fall harvest.

### **RHUBARB**

Well established clumps of rhubarb require little attention and continue to produce for many years. Recommended varieties: Strawberry and Giant Cherry. Plants are started by planting divisions of old root stocks, which have at least one good bud apiece. Allow 3 feet between plants. Plant on ridges to get good drainage. No leaves should be removed during the first season. Rhubarb can be allowed to become dormant during the summer by limiting the amount of irrigation water applied. The stalks have the best quality during the winter and early spring. In harvesting, pull stalks rather than cutting them off. Seed stalks should be removed as they appear.

### **TURNIPS**

Turnips can be grown satisfactorily during the fall and early spring. Main planting dates are April and May. They require about 75 days from seeding to harvest. Purple Top White Globe is the main variety. Plant 7 to 10 feet of bed (15 to 20 feet of row) each planting.

### **PARSNIPS**

Parsnips require a long growing season (125 days) and are of best quality after the plants have been frosted. Improved Hollow Crown is a good variety. Plant in May or June, follow directions given for beets or carrots. Germination is slow and frequent watering will be necessary to get the plants up. 20 to 30 feet of row generally will be sufficient. Parsnips are hardy and can be left in the ground all winter.

CROP	PAGE	PLANTING CALENDAR											
		J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	
Asparagus	5	.	.	P	P	S	S	.	.	.	.	.	
Beans, Snap	5	.	.	.	.	S	S	.	.	.	.	.	
Beets	6	.	.	S	S	S	.	S	S	.	.	.	
Broccoli, Sprouting	6	.	.	.	P	P	.	.	.	.	.	.	
Cabbage	7	.	.	.	P	P	.	.	.	.	.	.	
Carrots	7	.	.	.	S	S	.	S	.	.	.	.	
Cauliflower	16	.	.	.	.	P	P	.	.	.	.	.	
Cucumbers	8	.	.	.	.	S	S	.	.	.	.	.	
Garlic	8	.	.	.	X	.	.	.	X	.	.	.	
Lettuce, Leaf	9	.	.	.	S	S	.	.	S	.	.	.	
Lima Beans	12	.	.	.	.	S	S	.	.	.	.	.	
Melons	9	.	.	.	P	S	.	.	.	.	.	.	
Okra	10	.	.	.	.	S	S	.	.	.	.	.	
Onions, Dry	10	.	.	X	X	S	.	.	.	.	.	.	
Onions, Green	11	.	.	.	S	S	.	P	P	.	.	.	
Parsnips	16	.	.	.	.	S	S	.	.	.	.	.	
Peas	11	.	.	S	S	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
Peppers	12	.	.	.	P	P	.	.	.	.	.	.	
Potatoes, Irish	12	.	.	S	S	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
Pumpkins	9	.	.	.	S	S	.	.	.	.	.	.	
Radishes	13	.	.	S	S	S	.	.	.	S	.	.	
Squash, Winter	9	.	.	.	S	S	.	.	.	.	.	.	
Squash, Summer	13	.	.	S	S	S	S	S	S	.	.	.	
Strawberries	14	.	.	P	P	.	.	.	.	P	P	.	
Sweet Corn	14	.	.	.	S	S	S	.	.	.	.	.	
Swiss Chard	15	.	.	.	S	S	.	.	S	.	.	.	
Tomatoes, Early	15	.	.	.	S	P	.	.	.	.	.	.	
Turnips	16	.	.	S	S	.	.	.	S	.	.	.	

**P - Transplants**

**S - Seeds**

**X - Sets**

**Elevation in Feet**

**Avg. Growing Season in Days**

5000' or over

40 days or less

Between 5000' 4000'

90 days or less

Between 4000' 3000'

100 days or less

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To simplify information, trade names of products have been used. No endorsement of named products is intended, nor is criticism implied of similar products which are not mentioned.

