THE HOME VEGETABLE GARDEN

IN TEHAMA COUNTY

University of California
Cooperative Extension Service
Tehama County
The upper Sacramento Valley with its high summer temperature and occasional drying winds presents some difficulty for gardening. Some crops are extremely difficult to grow because of these climatic conditions. However, with proper attention to details, home gardening is practical in most of the county. The effect of climate, insects, and disease is particularly important in the choice of the garden crops to be planted. Crops should be selected with care and to suit the family taste.

Home gardens will be more successful if each crop is grown during the most favorable period for its development. There are three general planting periods for crops for the home vegetable supply in Tehama County. These periods and the crops usually the most satisfactory are listed in the following table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>February - March</th>
<th>April - June</th>
<th>July - September</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Asparagus</td>
<td>Beans (snap)</td>
<td>Beans (snap)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beets</td>
<td>Cantaloupes and similar melons</td>
<td>Beets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broccoli</td>
<td>Carrots</td>
<td>Broccoli</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cabbage</td>
<td>Corn</td>
<td>Cabbage</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carrots</td>
<td>Cucumbers</td>
<td>Cabbage (Chinese)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chard</td>
<td>Eggplant</td>
<td>Carrots</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lettuce</td>
<td>Okra</td>
<td>Cauliflower</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mustard</td>
<td>Parsnips</td>
<td>Chard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Onions also Dec.-Jan.</td>
<td>Peppers</td>
<td>Corn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peas also Dec.-Jan.</td>
<td>Potatoes (sweet)</td>
<td>Lettuce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potatoes (white)</td>
<td>Pumpkins</td>
<td>Mustard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radish</td>
<td>Squash (summer)</td>
<td>Radish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spinach</td>
<td>Squash (winter)</td>
<td>Spinach (October)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turnips</td>
<td>Tomatoes</td>
<td>Turnips</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watermelons</td>
<td>Watermelons</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**LAYOUT AND SIZE OF GARDEN**

The ability and experience of the gardener and the amount of time available are important factors in determining the size and type of the garden. The time required to care for and harvest the crops throughout the season should be anticipated before planting. Overplanting beyond one's time and ability to properly care for the garden will result in disappointment and be wasteful of seed and energy.

The size of the garden will vary according to the space available. Gardens ranging from 100 square feet to 900 square feet will furnish a fair amount of the family needs, if the crops are carefully selected. With double cropping, an area of 2,000 to 3,000 square feet will supply most of the average family's requirements.

Where available space requires a small garden, the number of crops should be reduced rather than reduce the amount of each crop suggested in the following pages.
of the garden should be suited to the tools and equipment available for use. Row spacings given for each crop are minimum spacings, and individual convenience and desire may be followed just as well. However, the suggested spacing of plants in the rows should be closely followed to achieve good home gardening results.

LOCATION AND SOIL

Select a fertile, well-drained spot, avoiding fills of construction material and exposed subsoil. A sandy loam soil is preferred for the majority of vegetables. However, satisfactory crops may be grown over a wide range of soils. The heavier soils will require much more work and care in irrigation and cultivation.

Few crops do well if shaded. At least six hours of sunshine per day is necessary for most crops. Vegetables are not easily grown close to trees. Windbreaks, or buildings, which will protect a garden from north winds are desirable.

The soil should be spaded 6 to 8 inches deep and deeper if possible. All clods should be well-broken down for the seedbed.

FERTILIZERS

The productivity of any soil can be improved with an application of barnyard manures or commercial fertilizers. The following amounts of various types of fertilizers are recommended for most Tehama County conditions:

Barnyard manures: 100 pounds per 100 square feet
Sheep or rabbit manures: 40 pounds per 100 square feet
Poultry manures: 20 pounds per 100 square feet
16-20 ammonium phosphate: 2 pounds per 100 square feet
Ammonium sulphate: 1 pound per 100 square feet
Ammonium nitrate: 1 pound per 100 square feet

Apply manures before spading and plowing, if possible, and well before the planting date. Be sure to work all manure into the soil. Use well-aged manure as fresh may burn young plants. Commercial fertilizers should be applied by broadcasting at the time of preparing the soil or broadcasting immediately before planting.

IRRIGATION

For germinating seed, it is preferable to irrigate the soil to a depth of at least 6 to 8 inches prior to planting unless soil is already sufficiently moist from spring rains.

Allow the soil to drain for a day or two after irrigation before planting. Most seeds germinate better when planted into moist soil compared to planting into dry soil and irrigating afterwards.

After planting, only light, frequent irrigations will be necessary to keep the soil around the seed moist but not overly wet. At this point, overirrigation can be as harmful or worse than underirrigation. Light irrigations, no more than once or twice a day, to moisten the surface soil should be all that is necessary until plants have emerged.
After emergence, irrigation frequency will slowly decrease and amount applied will slowly increase until plants are near full size. More frequent irrigation will be necessary under hot, dry conditions. When plants are near full size they should not need irrigation more than once or twice a week. Drip irrigation will be necessary every 2 to 3 days. However, if soils are shallow or water infiltration rates are very slow, more frequent irrigations will be necessary. Check for water penetration depth with a shovel after an irrigation.

BEDS AND FLAT PLANTING

Most vegetables may be planted either on raised beds or on the flat. The raised beds appear best for winter crops, while spring and summer crops may be grown just as successfully on the flat. Soil type, irrigation facilities, and cultivating equipment may influence spacings. In general, ridges 30 inches from center to center, 20 inches across the top with 10 inch furrows 5 inches deep are suggested. Double row beds will then have 15 inches between rows. With plants that are grown one row per ridge, it is usually desirable to plant near the edge of the ridge in order for the young plants to receive ample water if irrigation by the furrow method is practiced.

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 if furrow irrigation is practiced. These furrows may later be cultivated in and a larger permanent furrow dug midway between the rows. Suggestions concerning planting are given under each crop in the following pages.

CULTIVATION

Cultivation after the garden is planted is mainly for weed control. The soil should not be allowed to crust around the base of the plants. Other than for weed control and keeping surface soil from crusting close to plants, continued cultivation is of doubtful value.

PESTS

Chemical recommendations for insect and disease control change frequently and are omitted from this publication. Current recommendations are available at the Cooperative Agricultural Extension Office.
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<tr>
<th>Vegetable</th>
<th>Approximate Planting Date</th>
<th>Moderate Planting for Family of 4</th>
<th>Distance Apart in Row</th>
<th>Distance Between Rows Without Beds</th>
<th>Recommended Storage Temperatures, Degrees F</th>
<th>Storage Period (Weeks)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Asparagus</td>
<td>Late Feb–March</td>
<td>30–40 plants</td>
<td>12&quot;</td>
<td>60&quot;</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>3 – 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beans (snap)</td>
<td>April and/or August</td>
<td>15–25 ft. row</td>
<td>3&quot; bush 15&quot;–24&quot; pole</td>
<td>24&quot;</td>
<td>35–40</td>
<td>1 – 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beets</td>
<td>Feb–Mar August, Aug</td>
<td>10–15 ft. row</td>
<td>2&quot;</td>
<td>18&quot;</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>3 – 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broccoli</td>
<td>Mar–April July–Sept</td>
<td>15–20 ft. row</td>
<td>10&quot;</td>
<td>36&quot;</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>1 – 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cabbage</td>
<td>Aug, Feb</td>
<td>10–15 plants</td>
<td>10&quot;–12&quot; Early 15&quot;–18&quot; Late</td>
<td>36&quot;</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>12 – 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cabbage (Chinese)</td>
<td>August</td>
<td>10-15 ft. row</td>
<td>12&quot;</td>
<td>30&quot;</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>2 – 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cantaloupes and similar melons</td>
<td>April–June</td>
<td>5–10 hills</td>
<td>36&quot;–48&quot;</td>
<td>72&quot;</td>
<td>35–40</td>
<td>2 – 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carrots</td>
<td>Aug, Feb–April</td>
<td>20–30 ft. row</td>
<td>1&quot;–2&quot;</td>
<td>18&quot;</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>16 – 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cauliflower</td>
<td>August – seed September-transplants</td>
<td>10–15 plants</td>
<td>18&quot;</td>
<td>36&quot;</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>2 – 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chard</td>
<td>Feb–March, Aug</td>
<td>3–4 plants</td>
<td>12&quot;</td>
<td>30&quot;</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>1 – 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corn (sweet)</td>
<td>April, May, July</td>
<td>20–30 ft. in 4 rows</td>
<td>12&quot; single</td>
<td>36&quot;</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>1/2 – 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cucumbers</td>
<td>April–July</td>
<td>6 plants</td>
<td>24&quot;</td>
<td>48&quot;</td>
<td>40–50</td>
<td>1 – 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eggplant</td>
<td>May</td>
<td>4–6 plants</td>
<td>24&quot;</td>
<td>36&quot;</td>
<td>40–50</td>
<td>1 – 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crop</td>
<td>Season</td>
<td>Row/Plant Info</td>
<td>Plant Info</td>
<td>Yield Info</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lettuce</td>
<td>Feb-Mar, Sept</td>
<td>10-15 ft. row head 10'-12'' leaf 8''-10''</td>
<td>24''</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>2 - 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mustard</td>
<td>Feb-Mar, Aug</td>
<td>10 ft. row</td>
<td>18''</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>1 - 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Okra</td>
<td>May</td>
<td>10-20 ft. row</td>
<td>18''</td>
<td>36''</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>1/2 - 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Onions</td>
<td>Dec-April</td>
<td>30-40 ft. row 2''-3''</td>
<td>18''</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>12 - 32</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parsnips</td>
<td>May-June</td>
<td>10-15 ft. row 3''</td>
<td>18''</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>8 - 16</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peas</td>
<td>Jan-March</td>
<td>30-40 ft. row 2''-3''</td>
<td>36'' bush</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>1 - 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peppers</td>
<td>April-May</td>
<td>5-10 plants 15''</td>
<td>36''</td>
<td>40-50</td>
<td>4 - 6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potatoes (sweet)</td>
<td>May</td>
<td>50-100 ft. row 12''</td>
<td>36''</td>
<td>55-60</td>
<td>8 - 24</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potatoes (white)</td>
<td>Feb-March</td>
<td>50-100 ft. row 12''</td>
<td>30''</td>
<td>40-45</td>
<td>12 - 20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pumpkins</td>
<td>Apr-June</td>
<td>1 - 3 plants 36''-43''</td>
<td>72''</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>8 - 24</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radish</td>
<td>Sept-Mar</td>
<td>4 ft. row 1''</td>
<td>18''</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>1/2 - 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spinach</td>
<td>Oct-March</td>
<td>10-20 ft. row 3''</td>
<td>18''</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>1 - 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Squash (summer)</td>
<td>Apr-June</td>
<td>2 - 4 plants 24''</td>
<td>48''</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>2 - 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Squash (winter)</td>
<td>Apr-July</td>
<td>2 - 4 plants 24''</td>
<td>48''</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>2 - 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tomatoes</td>
<td>Apr-May</td>
<td>10 - 20 plants 24'' bush 15'' stake 48''</td>
<td>60''</td>
<td>45 ripe</td>
<td>1 - 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>60-70 green</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turnips</td>
<td>Aug, Sept, Feb</td>
<td>10-15 ft. row 2''</td>
<td>18''</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>8 - 12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watermelons</td>
<td>Mar-June</td>
<td>6 plants 48''-60''</td>
<td>72''</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>2 - 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ASPARAGUS

Suggested varieties: Mary Washington, UC 157, UC 500W, UC 72
(these are all M Washington selections)

Towards the end of winter plant 1-year old plants or crowns in a trench that is 6" to 8" deep and cover crowns to a depth of 3". Fill in the trench gradually after the plants have made considerable growth in the late spring. Do not harvest the first year and in the fall after the tops (ferns) are dead they should be cut and removed or worked into the soil for humus.

There should be at least 4" of soil over the crowns at harvest season and since the crowns tend to grow up, it may be necessary to continue mounding the soil over the row of crowns each year. A planting can be expected to last five years or more.

A bed may be cut for about 6 - 8 weeks after the second year. Spears are cut at ground level when they are about 8" long.

BEANS - SNAP

Suggested varieties: Bush: Green - Contender, Tenderscrop, Roma II, Harvester
Bush: Blue Lake (many choices, most would succeed)
Bush: Wax - Cherokee Wax, Golden Wax, etc.
Purple: Royal Burgundy
Pole: Kentucky Wonder, Romano, Scarlet Runner

Plant seed 1½" to 2" deep in April and/or August. The bush type can be planted 3" apart in a double row 30" bed. The pole type is usually planted on a single row bed 15" to 24" apart. The bush type matures in 50 to 60 days and the pole type in 65 to 70 days. Continuous picking of pole types will prolong the harvest season. Bush types tend to be determinate, i.e.: do not produce continuously.

BEANS - LIMA (LARGE)

Suggested varieties: Bush - Fordhook 242, Henderson, Thorogreen
Pole - King of the Garden, Dixie Butterpea

Culture is about the same as snap beans. They are considered a humid climate crop but may be desired by some home gardeners. Flowering and pollination periods are sensitive to dry climates. Usually enough pods develop to make it worthwhile. Plant in May. Fordhook is a good bush type variety and King of Garden, a pole type.

BEETS

Suggested varieties: Ruby Queen, Little Ball, Detroit Dark Red, Early Wonder, Golden Beet (for greens and roots)

Plant seed 1" deep, 1" to 2" apart on a double row 30" bed in February, March or August. The first beets should be edible size (1") in 70 days. By harvesting the largest beets, the smaller plants will continue to grow for a prolonged harvest season. Beet tops can also be used for vegetable greens.

Store beets in the ground as long as possible. When there is a possibility of the roots becoming woody, pull, cut off top (leave 2" - 3" of stem) and store in a cool, moist location. Do not wash roots before storing.
BROCCOLI

Suggested varieties: Early: Waltham 29 or Spartan Early (better for spring). There are numerous good hybrid choices, best known as Green Duke, Green Goliath, Emperor, Premium Crop, etc.

Seed may be planted in July, August or September on double row beds. Transplants may be set out in August or early September on single row 30" beds. Thin seedlings to 10" apart but with transplants allow about 15" between plants. Depending on variety selected, seedlings mature in about 100 days while transplants take about 60 to 70 days to mature.

Spring plantings are also feasible. Seed or transplant in late March or April. Harvest in June.

Cut stem 6" below bud cluster just before bud opens. If harvested before flower buds open, a single plant may produce an additional 2 months in late fall and early winter.

CAULIFLOWER

Suggested varieties: Snowball types eg. Snowball X (early), Snowball Y, Self-Blanche and numerous others, including some hybrids, eg: Snow King, Snow Crown. Hybrids are early.

The culture of cauliflower is very similar to broccoli. The best home variety is Snowball. After the head begins to form, tie the leaves together over the head to exclude sunlight. Check occasionally for proper maturity.

CABBAGE

Suggested varieties: Early Jersey Wakefield, Stonehead, numerous hybrids. Copenhagen Market, Golden Acre, Premium Flat Dutch Savoy Types (tend to be late): Savoy King, Savoy Ace

Red Varieties: Red Acre, Red Head

Late varieties can be seeded or transplanted in August and the early varieties in February and again during August or September. Single row 30" beds are used for both types. Allow 10"-12" between plants for early varieties and 15"-18" for late varieties.

Harvest when the heads are solid. Cabbage will store in the field in a cool, moist climate and keeps well with refrigeration after cutting.

CHINESE CABBAGE

Suggested varieties: Michihli, China Pride, Jade Pagoda

The culture of Chinese Cabbage is similar to that of cabbage except seed is used instead of transplants. Spacing will be the same as for cabbage and 10-15 plants should be sufficient. Chinese Cabbage is a cool season crop and should only be planted in August. Spring plants usually fail. The mature heads are injured by freezing and heavy frosts and also by heat.
CANTALOUPES, OTHER MELONS AND WATERMELONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variety</th>
<th>Days To Harvest</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ambrosia, Topmark, Honeybush, Honeydew, Tam De, Fruit Punch, Limelight, Honeyloupe (orange-fleshed)</td>
<td>90 to 110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garden Baby, Bush Jubilee, Bush Sugar Baby, Yellow Baby, Yellow Doll</td>
<td>80 to 100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There are many interesting hybrids and for home gardens, most eastern "musk melon" varieties will perform well.

Melons require high growing temperature and may not be suitable for small gardens due to space requirements. The vines have separate male and female flowers and are pollinated by bees. The staminate or male flower does not set fruit.

Cantaloupes can be harvested at "full slip" which occurs when a slight crack completely circles the stem where it is attached to the fruit so that the stem can be pulled off, leaving a slight depression in the melon. Slip does not occur in Honeydew or Casaba so that these melons are harvested as they turn cream to yellow in color.

Watermelon maturity can be determined by a dull sound when thumped, the ground spot turning yellow, or the tendril nearest the melon turning dark and dying.

CARROTS

Suggested varieties: Chantenay, Nantes, Danvers, Imperator, Spartan Sweet, Baby, Gourmet. There are many hybrids available.

Seeds start best under cool, moist conditions in the spring and they prefer a sandy loam soil. On heavier soils the shorter rooted varieties such as Scarlet Horn or Ox Hart may do better.

Plant seeds 1/2" to 1" deep on double row 30" bed. Control weeds with shallow cultivator and thin carrots so that they are 1" - 2" apart in the row.

Carrots are ready to use in 70 to 80 days. Harvest larger carrots first as this thinning will allow smaller carrots to continue to grow and lengthen the harvest season. Carrots store best in the ground but can be pulled, topped with a 1" stem and stored.

CORN, SWEET

Suggested varieties: White - Silver Queen, Bi-Color
Yellow - Golden Cross Bantam, Jubilee.
Super Sweet - Early Xtra Sweet, Ivory 'n Gold, Butterfruit, Sweetie

Plant seed about 1-1/2" deep on single row 30" beds and thin to 12" between plants in the row. Pollination is better when corn is planted in small blocks of 4 or more rows, instead of a long, single row. Best planting dates are April, May and July. Allow two weeks between plantings to assure a long harvest season. Corn matures in 80 to 100 days.

Harvest at the milk stage and use immediately. Milk stage is when your thumb nail pushed into a plump kernel causes the milk to pop out.
**CUCUMBERS**

Suggested varieties: Slicing Types - Dasher II, Sweet Success, Sweet Slice, Burpee Hybrid, Bush Champion, Park’s Bush, Whopper, Pot Luck, Salad Bush

Pickling Types - Liberty Hybrid, Saladin, County Fair '83

Plant seed about 1" deep in late April to June. Plant in hills or 24" apart in rows that are 4 to 5 feet apart. Slicing types are best harvested at 8"-10" lengths and pickling types about 3" in length. Slicing types require 70 to 80 days to maturity and pickling types about 55 days. Slicing types may also be pickled but not for dills.

Careful attention to irrigation is necessary as insufficient soil moisture may cause bitterness. Frequent harvest will help extend the harvest season.

**EGGPLANT**

Suggested varieties: Black Beauty, Dusky, Imperial, Epic

Oriental Type: Ichiban, Tycoon

Very frost-tender crop that matures from transplants in about 110 days. Use cultural practices the same as for peppers.

**LETTUCE**

Suggested varieties: Butterhead - Dark Green Boston, Tom Thumb, Buttercrunch, Bibb

Loose - Salad Bowl, Oak Leaf, Red Sails

Cos or Romaine - Parris Island, Valmaine

Plant seed about 1/4 to 1/2" on double row bed. Leaf lettuce can be planted February to March and September. Head lettuce (Great Lake type) can be planted in early August or February, but is usually less satisfactory than the leaf types.

Seed two rows about 15" apart on the bed and thin looseleaf types to 8"-9" between plants and other types 10"-12" between plants. Leaf lettuce matures in 50 days, Cos types in 60-65 days and head types in 90 days. Lettuce seed is sensitive to high soil temperatures. During hot weather sprinkle irrigate late in the day or during the night to wet seed for germination.

**ONIONS**

Suggested varieties: Early: Grano, Granex, California Early Red

Late: Sweet Spanish (Yellow and White), Southport White Globe, Southport Red Clove, Stockton Yellow Globe

Onion varieties are developed for length of daylight response. Use intermediate or long-day types for Tehama County. Plant seed or sets on a double row 30" bed with rows 15" apart and sets 2" apart in the row. Sets are usually planted in December or January for early onions while seed planted in February or sets in March are used for late varieties.

Dry onions are ready to harvest when the tops fall over. Allow onions to become fairly dry before pulling.

Green onions are grown in the same manner but only 1" apart in the row and several rows per bed. Seed or sets can be used and any long-day white variety will produce satisfactory green onions. Pull for use as soon as onions reach an edible size. Soil can be pulled up around the stem for a longer bleached stem.
Suggested varieties:  
**Garden:** Little Marvel, Progress No. 9, Laxton's Progress

**Snow:** Greater Progress, Dwarf Grey Sugar, Mammoth Melting Sugar

Peas do best when produced during cool weather. The young plants are frost hardy but blossoms and pods can be damaged by cold weather. Plant seed 1" deep on double row 30" beds in January with 15" between rows and 1"-2" between plants in the row. Bush types generally do better than pole types.

Peas reach maturity in 70-80 days. Harvest when seeds in pods are well-developed but tender enough so that they are easily crushed between fingers without separating into halves.

**PEPPERS**

Suggested varieties:  
Sweet: Bell, Bell Boy, California Wonder, Yolo Wonder

Sweet Yellow: Sweet Banana, Gypsy

Hot: Jalapeno M, Anaheim TMR 23, Hungarian Yellow Wax

Best grown from transplants set out in late April or May on a single row 30" bed with 12"-15" between plants.

Fruit matures in about 100 days and sweet peppers can be used immature (green) or mature (red). Hot peppers which are to be dried should be allowed to ripen (turn red) on the plant. They may then be cut, with an inch of stem, strung on a thread and hung in a sunny place until dry and brittle.

**POTATOES (WHITE)**

Suggested varieties:  
White Rose, Kennebec, Chieftain, Norgold Russet, Red Lasoda

Potatoes are grown from section of tubers (seed potatoes) and only state certified seed potatoes should be used as they have been tested for virus disease. Cut seed pieces (2 ounces each) with one or more eyes each and store in a cool (but not cold), dry place for a day or two so that the cut surface will dry and-callus.

In February or March plant the seed pieces 2 to 3 inches deep in a single row 30 inch bed with 10 inches between plants in the row (about 10 pounds per 100 feet of row). Potatoes do best in a sandy loam soil and in about 80 days they will be of usable size. It will take about 120 days to reach full maturity for potatoes that are to be stored.

**POTATOES (SWEET)**

Suggested varieties:  
Moist Type: Garnet (red), Jewel (orange)

Dry Type: Yellow Jersey

Usually not recommended for the home garden as they are sensitive to temperature below 50°F and require a light sandy soil. Sprouts or slips can be planted on a single row 30 inch bed with 12 inches between plants in early May. Can be used when they reach edible size. Dig and store before heavy frosts. Some improvement in quality can be obtained in storage. Store at 55°F-60°F.
RADISHES, PARSNIPS, AND TURNIPS

These are all root crops and their culture is similar to that of beets. The necessary variations for each crop is given.

Radishes

Suggested varieties: Red: Cherry Belle, Champion, Scarlet Knight
White: Icicle, Snowbelle

The radish is a fast growing crop - 30 to 40 days - than can be included in the garden during fall and spring. Five feet of row will be sufficient for any one time and successive plantings every two weeks can be made. Radishes may be planted down the middle of beet and carrot beds. The radishes will be harvested before the carrots or beets will crowd or shade them.

Parsnips

Suggested variety: All-America, Hollow Crown, Harris Model

Parsnips require a very long growing season - 125 days - and are of best quality after the plants have been frosted. Plant in May or June using method for beets or carrots. Germination is usually poor and always slow and frequent watering will be necessary to get the plants up. A row 25-30 feet long will generally be sufficient. Parsnips are hardy and in some climates can be left in the ground all winter.

Turnips

Suggested variety: Purple Top White Globe
For greens only: Tokyo Cross Hybrid, Seven Top, All Top Hybrid

Turnips can be grown satisfactorily during the fall and early spring. Plant in August early September or February. Requires about 60 days from seeding to harvest.

SUMMER SQUASH

Suggested varieties: Scallop: Peter Pan Hybrid, Sunburst, Scallopini, Early
White Bush
Yellow: Early Prolific Straightneck, Early Golden Summer
Crockneck
Zucchini: Aristocrat, Crezyni, Ambassador, Cold Rush, Burpee Fordhook

Plant seed about 1-1/2" deep in April until July. Plant on large single row beds about 4 feet between rows and 2 feet in the row. Fruits are ready for first harvest in about 60-70 days. Harvest can be extended if all fruit is harvested before it matures, since mature fruit tend to stop flower development.

WINTER SQUASH AND PUMPKINS

Suggested varieties: Squash: Table King, Butternut, Banana, Hubbard, Buttercup
Pumpkin: Spirit, Autumn Gold, Jack O'Lantern, Big Max

Due to the space requirements for these vine crops they are not recommended for small gardens. They grow quite satisfactorily and can be included if space is available. All cultural practices are much like cucumber except for spacing. Allow 8 feet between rows and 5 feet in the row for pumpkins, and banana and Hubbard squash. Table King and Butternut squash are planted with 5 feet between rows and 3 feet in the row.
SWISS CHARD AND OTHER GREENS

Suggested varieties: Chard: Fordhook Giant, Lucullus, Rhubarb Chard, Ruby Spinach: Melody Hybrid, America Mustard: Tendergreen, Florida Broadleaf Kale: Vates Dwarf Blue Curled, Salad Savoy

Plant seed 1/2-1 inch deep on double row 30 inch beds and thin to 12 inches between plants in the row, except for spinach, thin to 6 inches. Plant in February and March for a spring crop and August for a fall and winter crop. Most types are ready for harvest in 55 days; crops such as chard can be harvested (outside leaves) for several months. New Zealand spinach planted in April or May is suitable for summer greens.

TOMATOES

Suggested varieties: Ace Hybrid VPN, Big Pick, Big Set, Celebrity, Champion; Early Pick

Transplants are set out in mid-April through May. Bush types are grown 5 feet between rows and 2 feet in the row while staked tomatoes are spaced 48 inches between rows and 15 inches in the row. In some areas seed planted in mid-March has proven satisfactory. Fruit matures in 90-120 days after transplanting.

Failure to set fruit may be related to the plants already having a heavy load of fruit or temperature extremes of below 60°F or above 100°F.

Blossom end rot or a tan discoloration at the blossom end is a physiological condition brought on in some varieties by heat and moisture stress. Careful attention to irrigation usually reduces this problem.

Pick when the fruit is fully ripe. In the fall, when there is a danger of frost, "green ripe" or "silver" tomatoes can be picked and ripened at room temperature (65°F-75°F). Ripe, pink or green ripe can be stored for 2 to 5 weeks at 55°F.
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