

A Guide To Planting Times for Good Growth of Vegetables In the Subtropics

Adjust according to micro-climate, experience & variety. Plant seeds or seedlings unless otherwise indicated.

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	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Artichoke-Globe pot/Jerusalem tuber				√	√	√	√					
Asian cabbage + choy type			√	√	√	√	√	√	√	Pest prone in heat		
Asian salad green – mizuna etc			√	√	√	√	√	√	√	Pest prone in heat		
Asparagus – crowns/pots or *seed	Froned growth stage			√	√	√	√	√	√*	Pick until late Oct		
Beans - sb=snake beans. Prefer seeds	sb	sb	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	sb	sb
Beetroot - harvest till Dec/Jan			√	√	√	√	√	√	√			
Broad bean – *seed/need cold to pod				√*	√*							
Broccoli –repeat harvest of side shoots				√	√	√	√					
Brussels sprouts - need cold				√	√			Heat makes sprouts hollow & puffy				
Cabbage – hearting types				√	√	√	√	Watch for caterpillars				
Capsicum - *plant pots not seed	√	√	√*	√*	Existing plants OK			√	√	√	√	√
Carrots - preferable from seed	Rot in wet		√	√	√	√	√	√	√			
Cauliflower – prefer cold			√	√	√	√		Shade heads in heat				
Celeriac – harvest when young			√	√	√							
Celery – very thirsty				√	√	√	√	√				
Chicory			√	√	√	√	√	√	√	Bolts to seed in heat		
Chilli - *plant pots not seed	√	√	√*	√*	Existing plants OK			√	√	√	√	√
Cucumber + Mouse melon	√	√	√					√	√	√	√	√
Eggplant – *plant pots not seed	√	√	√*	Existing plants OK in cool				√	√	√	√	√
Endive				√	√	√	√	Increasingly bitter with heat				
Florence fennel				√	√	√	√					
Garlic – plant cloves/harvest Dec				√	√	√						
Kale - *seedlings or pots. Long harvest			√	√	√	√	√	√*	√*			
Kohlrabi - *seedlings or pots only				√	√	√	√	√	√*			
Leeks			√	√	√	√	√					
Lettuce – hearting types need cool	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Okra - *seedlings or pots only								√	√	√	√	√*
Onions – *green/bunching all yr	*	*	*	√*	√*	√*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Parsnip – prefer cold/frost. *Seed only					√*	√*						
Peas – preferable from seed				√	√	√	√	More disease prone in heat/humidity				
Potatoes – certified seed potatoes			√	√	√	√	√	√				
Pumpkin - preferable from seed	√	√	Vines can hold fruit well into cold					√	√	√	√	√
Radish - resow seed monthly	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Rocket – resow seed monthly			√	√	√	√	√	√	√	Often, bitter in heat		
Rockmelon - preferable from seed	√								√	√	√	√
Rosella - *plant pots late in season									√	√	√	√*
Silver beet- 'Perpetual' copes in heat			√	√	√	√	√	√	√	Prone to root rot		
Spinach - English				√	√	√	Often harvests well into November					
Squash- seed preferable/may rot Jan		√							√	√	√	√
Strawberry- runners		√	√	√	√	Fruit winter and early spring						
Swede - preferable from seed					√	√	√					
Sweet corn - plant in blocks of 50	√	√	√						√	√	√	√
Sweet potato - plant runners	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Tomato - cherry nearly all yr *Plant pots				√	√	√	√	√	√*	√*		
Turnip- English. Japanese almost all yr				√	√	√	√					
Watermelon - preferable from seed	√	Harvest well into autumn							√	√	√	√
Zucchini - preferable from seed	√	√	Harvest into autumn					√	√	√	√	√

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For more information see Organic Vegetable Gardening by Annette McFarlane