

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 | Fruiting 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