



Year-Round Food Gardening in Sonoma County

Vegetable	Planting Window	Cool/Warm Direct/Trans	Final Spacing	Days to Maturity	Harvest
ASPARAGUS (crowns/roots)	Jan-Mar	T	12"	2-4 years	Harvest 2 yrs from planting crowns/roots
ONIONS, bulb	Jan-May	C,D/T	4-5"	90-150	After tops yellow and fall over
SPINACH	Feb-Mar	C, D/T	3-8"	40-50	Cut outer leaves or whole plant
TURNIPS	Feb-Mar	C, D	2-6"	30-75	Start pulling when 2-3" in diameter
GREENS, ASSORTED*	Feb-Apr	C, D	2-6"	35-45	Harvest varies by crop; before flowering
PEAS	Feb-Apr	C, D	2-6"	60-80	Pick pods regularly to prolong harvest
RADISHES	Feb-Apr	C, D	1"	20-60	Harvest as early as 3 weeks from sowing
LEEKs	Feb-July	C, T	2-4"	120-150	When stems are 0.5-2" wide
POTATOES (not sweet)	Feb-Aug	C, D	12"	90-120	Dig after flowering when tops die down
SWISS CHARD	Feb-Aug	C, D	10-12"	60-80	Cut outer leaves when plant is 12-18"
LETTUCE –HEAD & LEAF	Feb-Oct	C, D/T	4-12"	40-90	Cut young outer leaves or whole plant
BROCCOLI	Mar-Apr	C, T/D	12-24"	60-100	Cut central head with tight buds
CABBAGE	Mar-Apr	C, T/D	18-24"	65-120	When firm and before head splits
CAULIFLOWER	Mar-Apr	C, T/D	18-24"	80-110	When heads are full size
KOHLRABI	Mar-Apr	C, D/T	4-6"	50-70	When bulb is 2-3" wide
BEETS	Mar-Aug	C, D	3-5"	55-70	When bulb is 1-3" wide
CARROTS	Mar-Sept	C, D	2"	120-150	When roots are 1" in diameter
COLLARD GREENS	Mar-Sept	C, D	18-24"	60-90	Cut outer leaves or whole plant
ONION, bunching	Mar-Oct	C, D/T	1-2"	50-80	When tops are 12-18" tall
KALE	Mar-Nov	C, D/T	12"	65-75	Cut outer leaves or whole plant
ASPARAGUS (seedlings)	Apr-June	C, T	12"	3-4 yrs	Cut 5-8 spears lightly third year
CELERIAC	Apr-June	C, T	6-8"	150-180	Dig when roots are 3" wide
OKRA	Apr-June	W, T	12-18"	70-80	When pods are 2.5-3" long
PEPPERS	Apr-June	W+, T	12-18"	65-85	Can be picked green or wait for color
TOMATILLOS	Apr-June	W, T	18"	70-80	When fruit is green and 1-2" wide
TOMATOES	Apr-June	W+, T	18-24"	50-90	When fruit is fully ripe and colored
CORN, SWEET	Apr-July	W, D	12"	65-100	3 weeks after silks appear
CUCUMBERS	Apr-July	W+, D/T	12-24"	50-75	Pick when ripe to prolong harvest
PUMPKINS	Apr-July	W, D/T	36-96"	100-120	When shell has hardened
SQUASH, SUMMER	Apr-July	W, D/T	24-48"	50-60	When small and tender
EGGPLANT	May	W+, T	18"	60-80	When some color develops and skin glossy
MELONS	May-June	W+, T/D	12"	85-120	Ripeness depends on type
PARSNIPS	May-June	C, D	3"	90-120	Harvest when mature; before flowering
SQUASH, WINTER	May-June	W, D/T	24-60"	80-120	Shell should be completely hardened
BEAN, POLE & BUSH	May-July	W, D	2-4"	48-70	Pick pods when mature to prolong harvest
ARTICHOKES	May-Sept	C, D/T	24-48"	130-190	Cut tight, plump buds next spring
CELERY	June-July	C, T	6-12"	90-170	Harvest outer stalks or whole plant

Vegetable	Planting Window	Cool/Warm Direct/Trans	Final Spacing	Days to Maturity	Harvest
BRUSSELS SPROUTS	July-Aug	C, T/D	24"	100-150	Pick 1-2" sprouts before leaves yellow
CABBAGE	July-Aug	C, T	18-24"	65-120	When firm and before head splits
BROCCOLI	July-Sept	C, T	12-24"	60-100	Cut central head with tight buds
CABBAGE, CHINESE	July-Sept	C, D	12-18"	70-85	Whole heads when firm and well-formed
GREENS, ASSORTED*	July-Oct	C, D	2-6"	35-45	Harvest varies by crop; before flowering
SPINACH	July-Oct	C, D	3-8"	40-50	Cut outer leaves or whole plant
RUTABAGAS	Aug	C, D	6"	90	When roots are 2-3" in diameter
CAULIFLOWER	Aug-Sept	C, T	18-24"	80-110	When heads are full size
CHICORY & RADICCHIO	Aug-Sept	C, D	12"	80-90	Harvest small leaves in 40-50 days
ENDIVE & ESCAROLE	Aug-Sept	C, D	8-10"	60-80	Harvest leaves; overwinters well
KOHLRABI	Aug-Sept	C, D	4-6"	50-70	When bulb is 2-3" wide
ONIONS, bulb	Aug-Sept	C, D/T	4-5"	90-150	After tops yellow and fall over
RADISHES, Daikon & winter	Aug-Sept	C, D	4-8"	50-70	Harvest roots about 2" in diameter
TURNIPS	Aug-Sept	C, D	2-6"	30-75	Start pulling when 2-3" in diameter
PEAS	Aug-Oct	C, D	2-6"	60-80	Pick pods regularly to prolong harvest
CORN SALAD (MACHE)	Sept-Oct	C, D	2"	80	Harvest leaves; overwinters well
RADISHES	Sept-Oct	C, D	1"	20-60	Harvest as early as 3 weeks from sowing
GARLIC	Oct-Nov	C, D	3-5"	120-185	Harvest end of June when tops begin to die; stop water last month
RHUBARB	Dec-Mar	C, T	36"	-	Harvest 1 yr from roots, 3 yrs from seed

*Assorted greens include, among others, arugula, bok choy or pak choi, cress, komatsuna, mizuna, mustard greens and tatsoi.

C = cool season crops that grow best in soil temps of 60° to 65°F and air temps of 55° to 75°F

W = warm season crops that grow best in soil temps of 65° to 80°F and air temps of 65° to 95°F and little cooling at night

W+ = warm season crops that need extra protection to keep them warm if planted early in season

D = seed is usually sown directly in the garden

T = crops are usually planted from transplants

D/T = seeds can be planted directly into soil or transplants can be used

Planting dates are approximate; uncertain weather patterns due to climate change, microclimate and other growing conditions must be considered when direct seeding and transplanting.

For crops that are normally direct seeded like carrots, peas, beans, start "Days to Maturity" at time seed is sown.

For crops that are normally transplanted, like eggplants, peppers, tomatoes, start "Days to Maturity" at time the seedling is planted.

When "D/T" or "T/D" is indicated, the first designation is the usual planting method for determining days to maturity.

Use "Days to Maturity" for succession planning.

The actual number of days between planting and harvesting depends on the variety and your microclimate in that year. Vegetables planted in fall may take much longer to mature since the fall and winter growing season is so cool.

For more information, refer to the Sonoma County "[Vegetable Planting Summary](#)" and individual crop articles on the Sonoma County Master Gardener [website](#).

For help with your garden problems, call the Master Gardener hotline at 565-2608 or visit the Master Gardener information desk in the University of California Cooperative Extension office (133 Aviation Blvd., #109, Santa Rosa), or ask a Master Gardener at your local farmers market or the Sonoma County Fair or other event. See our [website](#) for additional publications.

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