
Oregon State Agricultural College

Extension Service

Corvallis, Oregon

The Farm Vegetable Garden

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Purpose of publication. This Bulletin presents in concise tabular form information concerning planning and planting the farm vegetable garden. It does not relate to commercial vegetable production, but is designed to encourage more and better farm home gardens in the state.

Importance of vegetable products. Among the several food products raised on the farm, vegetables hold an important position and are entitled to greater consideration by the farmers of Oregon. There are at least 30 different kinds of vegetables which can be successfully grown in various parts of the state, thus affording a wide range of healthful, nutritious food. In addition to fresh vegetables obtainable from the garden many crops can be canned, dried, pickled, or stored, thus providing an ample supply the year round. A well-planted garden, properly cared for, invariably results in reduced purchase of food not ordinarily produced on the farm.

Data obtained by Government and state experiment stations have shown that the vegetable garden area produces larger gross returns with less investment of time and money than any other part of the farm.

Many farmers are apt to underestimate the financial value of the vegetable garden area because the bulk of the produce goes to the family table instead of being converted by sales into actual dollars and cents.

Systematic work is as essential to success in the vegetable garden as in the regular care of the dairy, poultry, and stables. No garden will thrive and be satisfactory under irregular, inconsistent attention, any more than would a cow milked whenever the farmer took the notion.

Layout of the garden. Inasmuch as the area selected by the gardener on each farm varies in length and width, no definite size of garden is here mentioned. In order to reduce labor costs by horse cultivation, however, the garden should be about twice as long as it is broad, with the rows running lengthwise of the plot.

A total area of one-quarter of an acre or more would be furnished by a plot 50 by 200 feet, 70 by 150 feet, or some such proportion.

While a certain number of linear feet of each vegetable is suggested in the plan, yet this is a variable factor according to the size and the preferences of each farm family. The figures, however, can be safely followed in most instances.

Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics

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FARM GARDEN PLANTING TABLE

Showing Detailed Recommendations Arranged in Order of Planting. Beginning in the Spring.

Vegetable	Variety	Ft. of row or No. of plants	Date seeding	Hills, drills, or plants	Date of planting	Distances of planting Rows Plants	Amt. of seed per 100 ft.	Depth of planting	When ma- turing
Radish.....	Scarlet turnip— white tipped White Icicle	25-50	Mar. 10	D	Successive seedings	24 1	1 oz.	1	May and in succession
Spinach.....	Thick Leaf Longstanding	100	Mar. 10 Apr. 15	D		24 1-2	1 oz.	1	May 15- June 10
Lettuce.....	New York	3 doz.	Feb. 1-15	Hotbed	Apr. 10	18-24 12			June 1
Peas.....	Laxtonian Stratagem Tall Telephone	200	Mar. 10- Apr. 25	D	Successive seedings	30 2-3	1 lb.	1½-2	June 10
Cabbage—early.....	Golden Acre Copenhagen Mkt.	4-5 doz.	Feb. 1-15	Hotbed	Mar. 25 Apr. 20	30 18-24			June 30- Aug. 20
Onion (sets).....	Danvers Austral. Brown	50-75			Mar. 10 Apr. 10	24 2	2 lb. sets	1	June 1
Turnips.....	Purple top— White Globe	100	Apr. 10	D		24	½ oz.	½	June 1
Beets—early.....	Early Model	50	Apr. 10	D		30 2-3	2 oz.	1	July 1
Carrots—early.....	Chantenay	50	Apr. 10	D		30 2-3	½-1 oz.	½	July 10
Lettuce.....	New York Iceberg	See note 6	Apr. 10		Successive seedings	20 12	¼ oz.	½	June 20
Swiss Chard.....	Lucullus	50	Apr. 10	D		30 6	2 oz.	1	July 1
Onion (seed).....	Yellow Danvers Austral. Brown	100-200	Apr. 10-25	D		30 3	1 oz.	½	Sept. 10- Oct. 10
Parsnips.....	Hollow Crown	50-75	Apr. 20	D		30 3-4	¾-1 oz.	1	Sept. 20
Salsify.....	Sandwich Island	50	Apr. 20			30 3-4	1	1	Sept. 15
Cauliflower.....	Snowball	2-3 doz.	Feb. 25	Hotbed	Apr. 25	36 24			July 10
Corn—Sweet.....	Early Market Golden Bantam Golden Market	Rectangular block of each variety	May 1- June 15	D		36 6-10	1 pt.	2-3	July 25- frost
Beans—snap.....	Stringless Green pod Black Wax	200	May 1 July 1	D	Successive seedings	36 3	1 lb.	1-2	July 20- frost
Beans—pole.....	Kentucky Wonder Oregon Giant	100	May 15	H		36 30-36	1 lb.	2	Aug. 1
Beans—lima.....	Holmes Butter Oregon Pole Lima	100-150	May 15	H		36 30-36	1 lb.	2	Sept. 10
Tomato.....	Earliana Bonny Best Break o'Day Marglobe Perfection	2-3 doz.	Feb. 25	H	May 25	48-60 48		½	Aug. 1- frost

Squash—summer.....	Yellow Crookneck	6 hills	May 15	P		48	36	$\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	1	Aug. 10	
Cucumber.....	Davis Perfect Boston Pickling	18 hills	May 15	H		48-54	48	$\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	1	Aug. 1- frost	
Squash—winter.....	Delicious Banana Hubbard Table Queen	12-15 hills	May 15	H		96	72	1 oz.	1	Sept. 15 and store	
Pumpkin.....	Winter Luxury	10-12 hills	May 20	H		84	72	1 oz.	1	Sept. 15	
Pepper.....	Chinese Giant	12-18 plants	Feb. 25	P	June 10	36	24		$\frac{1}{2}$	Sept. 1	
Eggplant.....	Black Beauty	6-12 plants	Feb. 25	P	June 10	36	24		$\frac{1}{2}$	Aug. 25	
Carrots—late.....	Chantenay, Nantes	50	June 15	D		24	3	$\frac{1}{2}$ -1 oz.	1	Sept. 15	
Beets—late.....	Detroit Dark Red	50	June 15	D		24	3	2 oz.	1	Sept. 15	
Broccoli.....	St. Valentine	3-4 doz.	May 1	P	June 25	36	30		$\frac{1}{2}$	Mar. 10	
Broccoli—green.....	Calabrese										
Celery.....	Golden Self Blanching	50 ft.	Mar. 10	P	June 20 and later	30	6-8		$\frac{1}{2}$	Sept. 15 and later	
Cauliflower.....	Dry Weather Snowball	3-4 doz.	May 1	P	June 20 and later	36	30		$\frac{1}{2}$	Oct. 1 and later	
Cabbage—late.....	Glory, Ball Head, Green Savoy	5-6 doz.	May 1	P	June 25 and later	36	30		$\frac{1}{2}$	Oct. 1 and later	
Sprouts—Brussels...	Odense Market	2-3 doz.	May 1	P	June 25	36	30		$\frac{1}{2}$	Oct. 20	
Kale.....	Scotch curled	50	May 1	P	June 25	36	24		$\frac{1}{2}$	Sept. 25 all winter	
Turnips—late.....	Purple Top Golden Ball	See note 7	Aug. 10		Kohlrabi can be used as substitute for turnips				$\frac{1}{2}$	Oct. 25	
Cabbage—Chinese..	Wong Bok, Chihli	25	Aug. 1-15			24	10	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	Oct. 10	
Also the following perennials											
Asparagus.....	Washington	100-200 (50-100 plants)		P	April 15		24-30		8-10	Apr. to July	
Rhubarb.....	Victoria Mammoth Red	12-24 plants		P	April 1-15		48		3-4	Apr. to July	

NOTES ON PLANTING TABLE

- Varieties recommended* are standard. The variety, however, is no better than the seed strain; consequently it is very important to use good seed, as well as to grow the varieties suggested above.
- Dates are approximately correct but naturally vary according to season and locality in the state.
- Dates of maturity show whether a crop takes half or all of the growing season to produce a crop.
The following successions of crops are suggested: (a) Early radish and lettuce followed by late carrots and beets. (b) Early spinach followed by celery. (c) Early peas followed by broccoli and fall cauliflower. (d) Early cabbage followed by fall lettuce and spinach. (e) Early beets and carrots followed by Brussels sprouts and curly kale. (f) Early onion sets or peas followed by late cabbage.
- Sweet corn plantings should preferably be in rectangular blocks and varieties should be some distance apart to prevent crossing.
- Two sowings of beets and carrots are recommended, the first for early summer roots, the second for fall and winter supply.
- Lettuce must be grown in small amounts by planting successively each three or four weeks for continual production.
- Turnips are usually broadcast for fall production. Ample supplies of "greens" can be grown with spinach, chard, kale, etc.
- Contrary to general opinion, winter squash will not cross with pumpkin, cucumber, melon, or summer squash. The only ones of these mentioned which will cross are pumpkin and summer squash, and they should therefore not be planted near each other.
- Where only a single row of a vegetable is to be planted the main consideration of the gardener is to observe the distance between plants in the row, allowing the given space, as noted, before proceeding to plant the next vegetable.
- Where more than one variety of a vegetable is suggested, it is not unwise to plant both kinds as in the case of Glory and Ball Head cabbage for fall and winter, Earliana and Bonny Best tomatoes, dwarf as well as tall peas, etc.

ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS

1. There is little excuse for an insect-eaten garden. Most of the common vegetable insects can be readily controlled with standard poison dusts. Use a combination dust having arsenate of lead, nicotine sulfate, and a filler, commonly known as the complete or "All in one" dust. Keep handy a copy of the pest control circular listed below.

2. Well-grown plants of many vegetables for transplanting, such as tomato, cabbage, lettuce, cauliflower, celery, peppers, etc., aid materially in giving the crop a good start. These should either be grown in hotbeds or small greenhouses on the farm or purchased from some reliable grower.

3. Many farm gardens will repay, in increased yield and value of crops, time and money spent in irrigation. The water can be readily applied by gravity from the water storage tank on the farm.

4. Commercial fertilizers are often a valuable stimulant to vegetable growth. A special circular is available concerning the materials to use and how to apply them (see mimeographs below).

5. Unprofitable farm gardens are usually due to any or all of the following factors: hasty planning and planting, lack of choice of varieties, use of poor seed, insufficient fertilizer, ravages of insects, inconsistent care in cultivation and weed killing, and insufficient soil moisture.

6. Fall and early winter vegetables must in several cases be started a number of weeks before the maturity of the crop. The mimeograph circular dealing with this phase of gardening should be used by all who desire a complete garden.

PUBLICATIONS ON VEGETABLE CROPS

Farmers' Bulletins obtainable free from the United States Department of Agriculture,
Washington, D. C.—

	No.		No.
Asparagus	1646	Muskmelons	1468
Cabbage	433	Permanent Fruit and Vegetable Gardens	1242
Preparation of Cabbage for Market.....	1423	Saving Seeds for the Home and Market Garden	884
Celery	1269	Control of Insects and Diseases in the Home Garden	856
Onion Culture	354	Tomatoes as a Truck Crop	1338
Onion Seed and Onion Sets	434	Watermelons	1394
Preparation of Tomatoes for Market....	1291	Production of Cucumbers in Greenhouses	1320
Greenhouse Construction and Heating	1318	Greenhouse Tomatoes	1431
Sweet Potato Growing	999		
Home Storage of Vegetables	879		
Handling Spinach	1189		
Lettuce	1609		

Mimeographs obtainable free from Oregon State Agricultural College—

Asparagus	Greenhouse Vegetables—Cucumbers
Late Cabbage	Growing Cannery Beans
Green Peas	Growing Cannery Beets
Celery	Broccoli Growing and Marketing
Onions	Sweet Corn
Early Tomato Growing and Marketing	Muskmelons and Cantaloupes
Fertilizers for Vegetable Crops	Rhubarb Culture and Marketing
Spinach Culture and Marketing	Head Lettuce Growing and Marketing
Construction and Operation of the Cold-frame	Cucumbers for Pickles
Growing Early Vegetable Plants Under Glass	Growing Cannery Carrots
Greenhouse Vegetables—Tomatoes	Mushroom Culture
Vegetable Crop Insect Pest Control	Growing and Marketing of Fall Cauliflower
	Growing Fall and Early Winter Vegetables