

Vegetable Crop Hardiness List



Hardy crops

Hardy vegetables can tolerate a hard frost—about 25° to 28° F (-3 to -2°C). The hardiest crops are kale, spinach, and collards which can tolerate temperatures in the low 20s and high teens.

Broccoli	Brussel Sprouts
Cabbage	Collards
English Peas	Kale
Kohlrabi	Leeks
Mustard Greens	Parsley
Parsley	Radish
Spinach	Turnips



Semi-hardy crops

Semi-hardy vegetables can tolerate a light frost—usually about 29° to 32°F (-2 to 0°C). They are good for spring and fall gardens.



Beets	Carrots
Cauliflower	Celery
Chinese Cabbage	Endive
Lettuce	Onions
Parsnips	Radicchio
Rutabaga	Swiss Chard

Suggested Cool Season Veggies – Zone 8



Arugula. Easy salad choice matures in less than 50 days. Arugula is mild-flavored when grown in cool conditions; plant by mid-autumn in frame or tunnel for harvest throughout winter; plant again in January.

Beets. Choose varieties that mature in 55 days or less; try to seed beets 10 weeks in advance of the first frost: ‘Bull’s Blood’ (40 days) early harvest heirloom; ‘Chioggia’ (54 days) beautiful ringed heirloom; ‘Golden Globe’ (55 days) sweet-flavored heirloom; ‘Red Ace’ (53 days) honey-sweet hybrid.

Broccoli. Choose a broccoli variety maturing in about 60 days and good side-shoot production: ‘Early Dividend’ (46 days) excellent side shoot development; ‘Patron’ (60 days) ‘De Cicco’ (60 days) mild-flavored heirloom; ‘Early Green’ (65 days) extended harvest from side shoots; ‘Packer’ (55 days) hybrid.

Brussel Sprouts Choose varieties that mature in 100 days or less. Long-season cool-weather Brussels sprouts are always best started from transplants. Taste improves with each fall frost. Can go 6 to 9 weeks past freeze with protection. ‘Long Early Dwarf Danish’ (95 days) freezing temperature enhances flavor; ‘Oliver’ (90 days) early harvest; ‘Jade Cross’ (100 days) holds well in poor weather.

Cabbage. Choose cabbage varieties that mature in less than 90 days. Harvest before the first freeze. “Bravo” (85 days), “Rio Verde” (80 days).

Carrots. Choose varieties that mature in less than 60 days. Carrots can be stored in the ground where the soil does not freeze. Grow in a cold frame protected from a hard freeze. In severe winter areas, cover carrots with straw inside the frame. Emperor 58, Nantes Half Long, Red Core Chantenay.

Cauliflower. Choose cauliflower varieties that mature in less than 60 days. Best started 10 weeks before the first fall frost. ‘Snow Queen’ (50-60 days) is easy an easy care for hybrid; Snowball Y Improved as well. “Snow Crown” (70-80 days), Snowball Y (75 days).

Chard: “Bright Lights” (55 days), “Ruby” (32 baby, 59 bunching).

Collards: “Blue Max” (68 days), “Georgia Southern” (80 days).

Garlic. Plant cloves in fall to establish good root growth, not top growth. Garlic will mature in 7 to 8 months. In late fall cover the growing bed with straw and top dress with compost. Garlic matures in summer when the tops fall over. Here in the south where it gets hot Softneck varieties grow best, here are some varieties for the south:

Thermadrome: Buttery French softneck.

Lorz Italian: a bold flavored softneck that loves hot summers!

Marbled Purple Stripes like Siberian or Bogatyr Siberian is delicately flavored while Bogatyr has a deep true garlic flavor. These two varieties have large bulbs even when the heat soars skyward.

Georgian Crystal (most years): a medium great flavored garlic.

Romanian Red (only in years when winters are cooler): a hot savory garlic. We suspect another Porcelain garlic, Parvin, may be a better hot garlic to try.

Kale. The inside leaves are generally tastier than the outer leaves. Kale can be harvested from under the snow. Low-growing varieties are best for cold frames; taller varieties are not as cold hardy. 'Vates Dwarf' (65 days) low growing; 'Green Curled' (65 days); Nero di Toscano (55 days)..

Kohlrabi. Best grown in fall and winter; grow kohlrabi outdoors until a hard freeze then harvest and store; grow in a cold frame or plastic tunnel for a longer harvest. 'Grand Duke' (48 days) hybrid; 'Early White Vienna' (55 days) open-pollinated; 'Purple Vienna' (60 days) open-pollinated.

Lettuce. Lettuce season is fall, winter, and spring in very warm regions. Choose varieties that mature in 60 days or less. Lettuce can take only so much freezing and thawing, even in a cold frame or tunnel; plants should reach harvestable size by early winter; winter varieties can survive through winter in a cold frame if protected from multiple freezes.

Choose leafy varieties rather than heading varieties for the earliest harvest. Looseleaf varieties are fast-growing, less than 50 days. Butterhead varieties form a head and require about 75 days. Romaine requires about 70 days.

Choices: 'Winter Density', 'Green Wave'; Butterhead: 'Dear Tongue' (46 days" heirloom buttercrunch; 'Dark Green Boston', Romaine: 'Cinnamon' (65 days); 'Paris Island', Looseleaf: 'Salad Bowl', 'Red Sails', 'Ruby'; 'Simpson Elite' (53 days) heirloom.

Mustard Greens. Sow mustard greens in fall for harvest throughout winter. Tendergreen or Southern Giant (40-60 days).

Onions. Bulb onions are planted in winter for late spring or summer harvest, usually 90 to 120 days. Bulb onion thinnings can be used as green onions. Bunching onions and green onions can be harvested in about 70 days.

Bulb onions: 'Candy (long day), Early Grano 502 (Short day), Granex (Short day), Texas 1015 Y (Short Day).

Small bulb and bunching: 'Evergreen Long White, White Spear

Parsnips. Hardest of root crops, plant parsnips early summer for next spring harvest maturing in about 120 days; winter over with no protection even in coldest regions. Dig parsnips when the soil has thawed. Parsnips can store for 4 to 6 months.

Peas. **Snow peas** for autumn harvest at least 60 days before first light frost; leaves and vines are hardy, not the pods; freezing will damage the pods. Low-growing varieties come to harvest earlier. China, snow or sugar peas: 'Dwarf Grey Sugar' (65 days); 'Mammoth Melting Sugar' (75 days).

Garden peas: 'Freezonian' (63 days); 'Green Arrow' (65 days); 'Maestro'. Snap peas: 'Sugar Ann' (56

days); 'Sweet Snap' (60 days), 'Sugar Rae' (70 days), 'Sugar Daddy' (75 days); 'Super Sugar Snap' (60 days).

Potatoes: Irish: Red: Norland, Purple Viking, Red LaSoda

Irish: White: Kennebec

Sweet: Beauregard, Centennial, Jewel

Radish. Can be one of the last crops sown in fall (and one of the first in spring); radishes grow best in cool, moist conditions. Radishes can be harvested as early as 25 days and will keep in cool soil for up to 60 days.), 'Champion' (24 days), 'Icicle' (30 days); 'Snowbelle' (26 days).

Spinach. Spinach will germinate and grow at temperatures just slightly above freezing and continue growing until freezing. 'Winter Bloomsdale' (45 days); Early hybrid & Melody.

Turnips. Turnips are the best tasting when young and tender. Choose varieties that mature in 40 days or less. 'Tokyo Cross' (35 days) and White lady hybrid (35 days).

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