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## VEGETABLE GARDENS

The value of vegetables in the diet is so well known that it is not necessary to write anything about why garden vegetables are needed. In times of stress it is necessary to do everything possible to provide food to sustain life. With the need of garden products in the diet admitted and knowing that they can be produced profitably, it is desirable to plan for an all season garden and to learn how it can be cared for most easily without interfering with other duties.

### Garden Plan

A plan should be worked out before planting anything in the garden. An evening can very profitably be spent working out a plan for the garden. It need not be elaborate, but simply a list of the rows and distance apart and what each is to contain. It is possible in some cases to grow two or more crops on the same land each season.

### Where and When Should the Seeds Be Bought?

Vegetable seeds are grown in various parts of the United States and other countries, depending upon the kind and where each succeeds best. At present many seeds are sold by local dealers from "seed boxes" sent out by large seed firms. A careful seedsman cannot afford to distribute seeds grossly untrue to name or low in quality. Of course it is better to purchase seeds early than to wait until the planting season is at hand. If ordered early the dealer is more apt to supply the best strains and it gives the purchaser a chance to test the germination power if in doubt of the quality.

### When Should the Seeds Be Planted?

If we divide the vegetables into two groups such as warm climate and cold climate vegetables, it is easier to know when to plant them in the open ground.

The kinds belonging to the warm climate group are: tomato, eggplant, sweet corn, bean, pepper, cucumber, muskmelon, watermelon, okra, squash, and pumpkin. These require a warm soil and thrive best when the weather is warm so they must not be planted in the open until danger of frost is past. It means that, as a rule, tomato plants should not be set out until May 25 to June 1 in the southern and central parts of the state. If the soil is cold these crops will not grow much so it is better to wait until the conditions are right.

### When Should the Garden Be Cultivated?

It is never advisable to sow any seeds in the garden until the harrow, hand cultivator, or rake has been used to stir the surface thoroughly. Cultivation must be continued at frequent intervals to destroy all weed growth when the weed seeds are starting to germinate. Too often cultivation is delayed until the weeds have gained a foothold and then they are much harder to remove or kill. KILL THE WEEDS BEFORE YOU SEE THEM. From experience we know that the common garden rake will kill more weeds, if used at the right time, than "the man with a hoe" can kill in five times the time after the weeds have started well. A good garden rake is one of the few tools absolutely needed in a small garden. Surface cultivators, pushed by hand or pulled by horse power, will do the same work in a large garden.

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WHAT TO GROW IN THE LONG-ROW VEGETABLE GARDEN

Latitude of St. Paul

Crop	Variety	Seed or Plants Per 100 ft.	Row Length for Av. Family of Four	Plants Apart in Rows	Plant or Trans-plant	First Harvest
Asparagus	Washington	75 pl.	100 ft.	18 - 24 in.	Apr. 15	2 years
Beans (String)	Golden Wax, Stringless Greenpod	1 lb.	50 "	3 - 4 "	May 15	July 10
Beans (Lima)	Bush	1 lb.	100 "	6 - 8 "	May 15	Sept. 1
Beet	Detroit Red, Egyptian	1 oz.	75 "	4 - 6 "	Apr. 15	June 15
*Broccoli	Italian Sprouting	½ oz.	75 "	2 - 3 ft.	Apr. 15	July 15
*Cabbage (early)	Jersey Wakefield	66 pl.	25 "	18 - 24 in.	Apr. 15	July 1
* " (med.)	Copenhagen Market	66 pl.	25 "	18 - 24 "	May 1	July 15
" (late)	Danish Ballhead	50 pl.	50 "	24 - 30 "	June 1	Sept. 1
Carrot	Chantenay, Nantes	1 oz.	100 "	2 - 4 "	Apr. 15	July 1
Corn (Sweet)	Golden Bantam, Golden Gem	4 oz.	200 "	24 - 36 "	May 1	July 15
	Country Gentleman	4 oz.	200 "	30 - 36 "	May 1	Aug. 1
Cucumber	White Spine	½ oz.	40 "	4 - 6 ft.	May 15	July 15
Lettuce (Leaf)	Grand Rapids	½ oz.	35 "	4 - 6 in.	Apr. 15	June 1
Muskmelon	Osage, Milwaukee Market	½ oz.	100 "	5 - 6 ft.	May 15	Sept. 1
Onion	Globe (Yellow, red, white)	1 oz.	100 "	2 - 3 in.	Apr. 15	Aug. 15
Onion (sets)	Red, white, yellow	2 lb.	40 "	2 - 3 "	Apr. 15	June 15
Onion (plants)	Prizetaker, Yellow Bermuda	400 pl.	100 "	3 - 4 "	Apr. 15	Aug. 15
Parsnip	Hollow Crown	½ oz.	50 "	2 - 3 "	Apr. 15	Sept. 15
Peas (early)	Alaska, Marvel	10 oz.	300 "	2 - 3 "	Apr. 15	June 15
" (late)	Senator, Telephone	10 oz.			Apr. 15	July 15
*Pepper	Early Giant, Ruby King	40 pl.	15 "	18 - 24 "	June 1	Aug. 15
Potato (early)	Early Ohio, Irish Cobbler	5 lb.		16 - 20 "	Apr. 15	July 15
" (late)	Rural New-Yorker, Green Mountain	5 lb.		16 - 24 "	May 1	Sept. 1
Pumpkin	Long or Round Pie	½ oz.	40 "	8 - 12 ft.	May 15	Sept. 1
Radish (summer)	Scarlet Globe, Icicle	1 oz.	25 "	1 - 2 in.	Apr. 15	May 15
Rhubarb	Victoria, McDonald Crimson	33 pl.	40 "	3 ft.	Spring	1-3 years
Rutabaga	American Purple Top	½ oz.	40 "	6 - 8 "	July	Oct. 1
Spinach	Bloomsdale Long-Standing New Zealand	1 oz.	150 "	3 - 4 "	Apr. 15	June 1
			50 "	24 in.	May 1	July 15
Squash (summer)	Crooknecks & Scallops	1 oz.	10 "	2 - 4 ft.	May 15	July 15
" (winter)	Hubbard, Table Queen	1 oz.	50 "	7 - 9 "	May 15	Sept. 1
*Tomato (early)	Red River, Earliana	33 pl.	75 "	3 - 4 "	June 1	July 15
" (med.)	Bonny Best					
Turnip	Purple Top	½ oz.	75 "	1 in.	Apr. 15	July 1
Watermelon	Kleckley's Sweet, Will's Sugar	1 oz.	100 "	8 - 10 "	June 1	Sept. 1

\*These vegetables should be started in the house, hotbed, or greenhouse in March and the plants transplanted one or more times so that strong plants will be ready for setting in the open field when danger of frost is passed.

### What Kind of Soil is Best?

Garden crops may be grown successfully on any soil which ordinarily produces good corn or potatoes. A real heavy soil is harder to work, does not warm up so quickly in the spring, and the plants usually grow more slowly. Vegetable crops should, as a rule, grow rapidly so must have sufficient plant food in available form and in sufficient quantities when needed. All this means that the soil must be rich in plant food materials. Vegetables contain a large percentage of water so that they cannot grow well unless the soil is supplied with moisture. It is well known that the severe droughts during the last few years were largely responsible for the failure of the major farm crops as well as the vegetables. Every method of conserving the soil moisture should be followed, such as preventing weak growth and not allowing too many plants in a garden row.

### How Large a Garden Shall We Have?

This depends upon the size of the family. At least a half acre is needed for the vegetables alone. In addition there should be space provided for strawberries, raspberries, currants, plums, apples, and other fruits. A garden 100 to 125 feet wide by 200 to 250 feet long should produce all the vegetables needed by a family of 5 or 6 for the entire year except for the late potatoes. If the garden is at a distance from the house, it may be desirable to have a small garden properly fenced near the house where the good wife can have lettuce, radishes, early carrots and beets, Swiss chard, and room for some flowers--just to brighten the grounds and give color and enjoyment inside the home.

It was impossible to mention all the vegetables in the table so some of the less important ones were left out.

Cauliflower, kale, kohlrabi, and Brussels sprouts belong to the cabbage family and in a general way require similar cultural treatment. Cauliflower and kohlrabi may be grown as a spring or fall crop.

Kale may be sown at different times during the season and the leaves are used as greens. It is better to cut the leaves before they grow to full size. The mature plants in the fall may be lifted and stored for winter use.

The roots of celeriac are used for flavoring purposes. The seed is sown in the open ground in May. The roots may be stored in a cool cellar for winter use.

Celery is a popular vegetable but requires special attention during the blanching period. Plants for the early crop are started in the house or hotbed and set about six inches apart in the garden. Boards or paper ten to twelve inches wide is placed along the sides of the row when the plants are eight to ten inches tall.

Eggplants and peppers require warm weather for best development and should be started the same as tomato plants indoors.

Swiss chard is a form of beet and is easily grown. The leaf stems are used for greens.

Only a few parsley plants are needed for garnishing. The plants should be early.

Horseradish is grown from pieces of roots about  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch in diameter and long. The roots should be ready for use in the late fall.

Lima beans require a higher temperature than bush beans so should be so early. Select the most sheltered part of the garden and the highest soil.

THE LONG-ROW VEGETABLE GARDEN FOR A FAMILY OF SIX

200'

1	Asparagus	Rhubarb	Per Onions	4'
2	Onion seed marked by radish			4'
3	Onion sets followed by lettuce	Spinach followed by K'rabi		3'
4	Early potatoes followed by spinach and winter radish			3'
5	"	"	turnips	3'
6	"	"	"	3'
7	"	"	string beans	3'
8	Leaf lettuce	Early turnips	Kohl-rabi	3'
9	Early smooth peas	Early wrinkled peas		3'
10	"	wrinkled peas	Late " "	3'
11	Earliest cabbage	2nd Early cabbage	Lettuce	3'
12	Late cabbage	New Zealand spinach		3'
13	Early beets	Early carrots	Parsley	3'
14	Parsnips marked by radish	Swiss chard		3'
15	Early	Intermediate	Late	3'
16	Sweet	Sweet	Sweet	3'
17	Corn	Corn	Corn	3'
18	"	"	"	3'
19	String beans			3'
20	String beans			3'
21	Carrots	Beets		3'
22	Late Cabbage			3'
23	Peppers	Bush Lima Beans	Eggplant	3'
24	Tomatoes			4'
25	Muskmelon			6'
26	Summer squash	Cucumbers		6'
27	Watermelons	Pie Pumpkins		9'
28	Winter squash			9'
29	Late potatoes	(12 rows)	(3' apart)	4'
	-----			3'

150'