Vegetable Planting Calendar for Maricopa County

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In the low desert regions of the southwest, including Maricopa County, most any type of vegetables and fruits can be grown successfully when appropriate varieties are selected and planted at the right time. The climate, the season, and potential pests all impact the selection of what to plant when.

Climate: High temperatures, both day and night for extended periods of time, low humidity, and the high solar intensity can put tremendous stress on plants. In addition, some plants may not survive freezing temperatures if there is a hard winter frost. Select varieties that are tolerant of temperature extremes, use local planting calendars that guide when to plant at the optimum times to avoid temperature extremes, or plan to protect the plants. Extreme soil temperatures affect seed germination and stand establishment. Use a soil thermometer to check for optimal soil temperatures to be in a range of 65° to 85°F for many of the commonly grown vegetables. It is possible to grow crops out of season by providing shade, more humidity, artificial heat, etc.

Seasons: We have two optimal growing and planting seasons: one in the spring, the other in the fall. Both day length and temperature vary dramatically between seasons (short days and cold temperatures in winter to long days and extreme temperatures in summer). Since few annual plants are suited

to thrive in both conditions, it is important to choose crop varieties that mature quickly to ensure a full life cycle within one season. Seed packets commonly provide a time to maturity for the crop variety.

Pests: Choose varieties that have been bred to be resistant to diseases and pests. These are indicated by initials following the plant variety name, for example, for tomatoes, "V" means resistant to Verticillium wilt disease, "N" indicates resistance to nematodes, "F" indicates resistance to Fusarium wilt disease, and "T" indicates resistance to tobacco mosaic virus. Choose a planting date to avoid known pest seasons. For example, delay fall planting until whitefly populations decline with cooler temperatures; delay spring planting until soils become warm and dry to reduce fungal and bacterial disease.

At a Glance

Choose varieties that:

1. mature quickly;
2. are adapted to climate & soils;
3. are recommended by local gardeners;
4. provide desirable yield, taste, texture, & color;
5. are disease & pest resistant.

Use chart to choose planting date.

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
Maricopa County Garden Planting Calendar for Fruits and Vegetables

Fruit • Vegetable	Time to Harvest	Jan 1	Jan 15	Feb 1	Feb 15	Mar 1	Mar 15	Apr 1	Apr 15	May 1	May 15	Jun 1	Jun 15	Jul 1	Jul 15	Aug 1	Aug 15	Sep 1	Sep 15	Oct 1	Oct 15	Nov 1	Nov 15	Dec 1	Dec 15
Artichokes, Globe	4-6 months		T	T	T	T	T															S	S	S	
Artichokes, Jerusalem	6-8 months		T	T	T	T	T																	T	T
Asparagus	2-3 years	T	T	T																		T	T	T	T
Basil	T = 30 S = 60-75 days				S	T/S	T/S	T/S	T/S	T/S	T/S														
Beans, Lima	60-100 days						S	S																	
Beans, Pinto	60-90 days														S			S							
Beans, Snap	60-90 days						S	S	S						S	S	S	S							
Beans, Yardlong	60-90 days						S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S											
Beets	60-80 days	S	S	S	S	S						S	S	S	S	S	S		S	S	S	S	S	S	S
Blackeyed Peas	90-120 days							S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S								
Bok Choy	45 days	S	S	S	S												S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
Broccoli	T=90-100 S=120-130 days	T/S	T															S	T/S	T/S	T/S	T/S	T/S	T/S	T/S
Brussel Sprouts	T=100-120 S=130-150 days																	T/S	T/S	T/S	T/S	T/S			
Cabbage	T=80-90 S=120-130 days	T/S	T															S	T/S	T/S	T/S	T/S	T/S	T/S	T/S
Cabbage, Chinese	T=45 S=70-80 days	T/S	T													S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	T/S	T/S
Carrots	60-100 days	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S							S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
Cauliflower	T=90-100 S=120-130 days	T/S	T															T/S	T/S	T/S	T/S	T/S	T/S	T/S	T/S
Celery	120-150 days																	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
Chard	60-90 days	T/S	T/S															S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
Collard Greens	80 days	S	S	S	S											S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
Corn, Sweet	70-90 days				S	S	S	S							S	S	S								
Cucumbers	60-90 days				S	S	S	S	S								S	S							
Cucumbers, Armenian	55 days					S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S											
Eggplant	70-120 days					T	T																		
Endive	80-120 days	S	S															S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S

S = Seeds   T = Transplants   X = Sets of Cloves

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Garlic	5-7 months																			X	X				
Kale	60-90 days																	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	SS
Kohlrabi	T=45-60 S=50-60 days	T	T	T																	T/S	T/S	T/S	T	T
Lettuce, Head	50-100 days	T/S	T/S	T														S	T/S	T/S	T/S	T/S	T/S	T/S	T/S
Lettuce, Leaf	30-90 days	T/S	T/S	T/S	T													S	T/S	T/S	T/S	T/S	T/S	T/S	T/S
Leek	180-200 days	S	S															S	S	S					
Melons, Cantaloupe Honeydews, etc.	80-120 days				S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S										
Melons, Watermelon	90-120 days				S	S	S																		
Mustard	35-45 days	S	S	S	S													S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
Okra	70-100 days						S	S	S	S	S														
Onions, Bulb	Sets=4-5 months S=7-8 months	X	X	X																S	S	S	S	X	X
Onions, Green	T90-100 days	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S							S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
Onions, Shallots	T80 - 110 days													X	X										
Parsnips	100-120 days																	S	S	S	S	S			
Peanuts	5 months						S	S	S																
Peas	Sept.=60-120 Nov.=120-150 days	S	S	S	S													S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
Peppers	90-120 days				T	T	T							T	T										
Potatoes	90-120 days	S	S	S	S	S																			
Potatoes, Sweet	120-160 days					T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T												
Pumpkin	90-120 days					S	S							S	S	S									
Radishes	30-60 days	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S									S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
Rutabagas	100-120 days	S	S	S	S	S												S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
Spinach	30-90 days	S	S	S	S	S												S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
Squash, Summer	60-90 days					S	S	S									S	S							
Squash, Winter	90-120 days			S		S	S	S						S	S	S									
Sunflower	90-110 days			S	S	S	T	S	S	S	S	S	S		T	T									
Tomatoes	50-120 days				T	T	T								T	T									
Turnips	75-120 days	S	S	S	S													S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S

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Acknowledgement

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