

**Organic Vegetable Garden Seeding/Planting/To Do Checklist**  
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**Year** \_\_\_\_\_

**Actual date done**

*January* late-month:

- start **lettuce** and **spinach** indoors around the 15th
- start **onion** indoors to transplant (TP) out in March

*February* mid-month:

- sow **broccoli, early caulif. and early cabbage** (Cole crops) indoors (can use 2" pots & grow on cool side- ready for TP 3/15-4/1 under cloche)
- start **parsley** indoors, and autumn **leeks**, if desired
- traditional **pea**-planting date: president's weekend (however, when compared with plantings a month later, there was no difference in size)
- till in any cover crops
- prune **berries, fruit trees, and blues**
- prune and train **grapes**

late month:

- plant **early spring greens including spinach**- in-ground of soil temp. 50-60, or in a cold frame to harvest April to May.
- fertilize **overwintered onions** w/blood meal or OG Fertilizer
- start **tomatoes** indoors to TP early in April with Wall-O-Waters
- start **peppers**: sow in 4" pots to TP out late May (long germination)

*March* 1st half:

- start **tomatoes** indoors to TP for traditional mid- May planting
- TP (transplant) **lettuce/spinach** started in Jan. under a cloche (1-2 c. organic fertilizer per 10sq. ft)
- TP **onions** started in January
- **lettuce/spinach** sown in a cold frame will come up
- can start 1st crop of **carrots**
- can put Cole **crops** in a cold frame @ 3-4 wks old to harden before planting

2nd half:

- TP **coles** started in Feb between 15th and 31st (1/2c. org. fertilizer per plant); cover with Remay to control bugs
- Can do an early **potato** planting in the 17th if have them
- start another set of **early cabbage & caulif.** (to mature in June) - once seeds sprout, can go directly into cold frame like any cold tolerant variety at this time of year
- fertilize **caneberries, gooseberries, and currants** w/compost-manure

*April* 1st half:

- sow more **salad greens** at the beginning of each month (will still do better under cover if rainy); spinach needs to be summer type now
- main season **potatoes** can be planted now
- direct sow (DS) **beets** and **chard**
- set any **tomatoes** started in February out on nice days for short periods

- fertilize **garlic** and **shallots** with blood meal
- plant another row of **carrots**
- fertilize Cole **crops** (broccoli, etc.)
- TP **tomatoes** into 3-4" pots; can put in cold frame to harden off

2nd half:

- start **basil** around the 15th - use 4" pots
- can start some **sunflowers** indoors to get early flowers
- TP **tomatoes** under cover if hardened off (use 1/2 c. org. fertilizer per plant); wait until early May if not hardened off

May 1st half:

- TP out 2nd set of early **cabbage**
- sow more salad **greens**
- on a sunny week, try an early row of bush **beans**
- plant main crop of **carrots** and more **beets**
- if warm enough, try **zucchini**, otherwise wait until after the 15th
- place pheromone traps in **apple trees**

2nd half:

- fertilize **garlic** again with blood meal
- when soil temp. is above 60 (70-95 ideal), sow **cukes, zucchini** and **pumpkins** (use 1 c. org. fert. per hole/hill)
- sow **beans, corn, and sunflowers** (or transplants); for corn: plant 2' apart in all directions for 6' types; 18" for 3-5' types.
- TP **peppers** under cloche or row cover, or wait until end of month if no cover (1/2 c. org. fert. per plant); use cold frame to harden off around 15th

June:

- sow more salad **greens** (summer)
- TP **basil**
- start fall Brussels **sprouts** indoors
- sow more **carrots**
- around 15th, sow late (85 day) **cabbage**(to mature mid to end Sept) and very late (100day) for Oct-Dec. harvest
- thin **apples, pears, plums, peaches** when fruit is big as a nickel

July 1st half:

- check for ripe **garlic**, dig and dry a few days before storing
- start fall **broccoli and cauliflower** on 7/4 to TP out mid-Aug.
- sow winter **beets** (Lutz/winterkeeper) before the 15th (aim for 1st week) and **parsnips**
- sow winter **carrots** between the 10-15th (can be sown 'til the 31st, but roots will be smaller)
- plant snap **peas** for late August-fall harvest

2nd half:

- start TP of overwintering **cauliflower, sprouting broccoli, and cabbage** (including Chinese) indoors
- can start Melissa **cabbage** indoors for late fall harvest
- sow a few **pac choi** outside
- sow **kale** and **chard** for fall anytime in July through August

- TP Brussels **sprouts** when large enough

*August* 1st half:

- sow winter **lettuce** by the 10th for good size
- **spinach** can be started anytime in Aug( keep shaded)
- sow a row of **turnips**
- TP any fall Cole **crops** started inside
- start **mache** around the 15th
- can try a row of fall **peas** (Utrillo)
- prune **caneberries** after harvest

2nd half:

- sow **scallions** for winter harvest
- start overwintered **Walla-Wallas** inside around the 15th
- TP any fall/winter **cabbage** started inside

*September* 1st half:

- TP **overwintering cauliflower, broccoli, and cabbage** for spring harvest
- can sow **lettuce, spinach, and mache** in cold frame to harvest Nov-Jan.
- sow a row of **carrots** for early spring harvest

2nd half:

- TP **Walla Walla onions** around the 15th (or when pencil-size)
- can sow overwinter **peas** again between the 15-30th for Mar/Apr harvest
- harvest **sunflowers, and potatoes**

*October:*

- sow **lettuce, mustard, spinach** in cold frame to harvest Feb-April
- plant **garlic and shallots**
- cover any **coles and winter greens** to keep rain from ruining (will last through Nov.
- harvest all **tomatoes and peppers** (put any green toms with a hint of pink in paper bags to ripen into Dec.)
- sow **fava** cover crops
- harvest **pumpkins**
- cut down **asparagus** and cover soil with compost
- place mulch around **berries**

*November:*

- tie **raspberry** canes
- place portable cold frame over winter vegetables

*December:*

- can spread wood ashes- no more than 1.5 lbs/100sq. ft.

### **Recipe for Complete Organic Fertilizer (S. Solomon)**

- 4 parts seed meal\* (cottonseed cheapest, others work, too)
- 1 part dolomite lime
- 1/2 part bone meal OR 1 part rock phosphate
- 1/2 part kelp meal (if too expensive, try greensand, but doesn't give the micronutrients)

\*in spring, can use 3 parts seed meal and 1 part blood meal for faster acting\*