



Photo Courtesy Burpee Seeds

Garden Varieties

**COOPERATIVE
EXTENSION
SERVICE** **EXT**
North Dakota State University Fargo, North Dakota 58105

NORTH DAKOTA
STATE UNIVERSITY

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SERIALS DEPT.

ROBERT G. ASKEW
Extension Horticulturist

DONALD J. KINZLER
Extension Associate Horticulturist

EARL SCHOLZ
Associate Professor
Department of Horticulture

RECOMMENDED VARIETIES

| VEGETABLE | DAYS | VARIETAL DESCRIPTION AND USE |
|----------------------------------|------|--|
| BEANS (GREEN)* | | |
| Topcrop *(Freezing, See p. 4) | 49 | Pods round, medium green, somewhat curved; use fresh, frozen. |
| Provider | 50 | Dependable, heavy early yields; pods straight and smooth, fully round. |
| Improved Tendergreen | 54 | More productive than Tendergreen type. Pods set well off the ground. |
| Tendercrop | 56 | Smooth, meaty dark green, with slow seed development. |
| BEANS (WAX)* | | |
| Topnotch Golden Wax | 50 | Improved Golden Wax, pods thick-flat, golden-yellow, stringless. Use fresh or frozen. Early. |
| Pencil Pod Black Wax | 56 | Popular for home freezing. Very productive. |
| Goldcrop | 60 | 1974 AAS.** Excellent variety for freezing or for eating freshly cooked. |
| BEANS (POLE)* | | |
| Blue Lake (Various strains) | 67 | Good climber with pod set from base to top of plant. Excellent for freezing. |
| BEANS (LIMA)* | | |
| Henderson Bush | 65 | Dependable. Very uniform growth. Table or freezing. |
| BEETS* | | |
| Pacemaker, II Hyb. | 50 | Beet greens are an excellent source of Vitamin A. Uniform, smooth and bright red color. |
| Ruby Queen | 52 | Round with smooth shoulders and crown. Small tap root. |
| Burpee's Golden | 55 | Smooth, bright golden; does not bleed like red beets. |
| Detroit Dark Red | 58 | Globe shaped, skin dark red, flesh deep blood red. |
| Sweetheart | 60 | Extra sweet, tender, solid red color, good for pickling. |

| VEGETABLE | DAYS | VARIETAL DESCRIPTION AND USE |
|-------------------------|------|---|
| BROCCOLI* | | |
| Premium Crop | 58 | Plant transplants 1975 AAS. Tight bud clusters, large, solid head. |
| Green Duke | 69 | Excellent uniformity. Medium heads. Good quality. |
| BRUSSEL SPROUTS* | | |
| Jade Cross Hybrid | 85 | Requires aphid control. Plant transplants. Plants tall; sprouts firm, medium size. |
| CABBAGE | | |
| Stonehead | 60 | Plant transplants. All varieties listed are yellows resistant. Extra early, extremely solid interior, very compact six inch heads 3 1/2 lbs. Family size. |
| Golden Acre YR | 63 | Round, light green, small (3 lbs.) Family size. |
| Hybrid Green Boy | 75 | Medium early hybrid. Five pounds, solid heads. |
| Wisconsin "All-seasons" | 90 | An excellent kraut and winter cabbage. Weighs 9 to 10 lbs. |
| CARROTS* | | |
| Nantes (Coreless) | 68 | Excellent source of Vitamin A. Narrow cylindrical shape; medium long with slight taper and blunt tip. Crisp and tender. |
| Red Cored Chantenay | 68 | Reddish-orange, uniform, tender and sweet. Core about same color as flesh. For storage, freezing and canning. |
| CAULIFLOWER* | | |
| Snow Crown | 53 | Set out transplants about May 15-20. All must be tied as soon as curd is visible. 1975 AAS. Vigorous, rounded, pure white, solid heads. |
| Self-Blanche | 70 | Large heads. Heads should be tied in warm weather. |
| SWISS CHARD | | |
| Lucullus | 60 | Leaves yellowish green, heavily crumpled with cream colored slender midrib. |
| Rhubarb | 60 | Bright crimson stalks with color extending into veins. Tender, excellent quality. |

**AAS denotes award-winning All-American Selections

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| VEGETABLE | DAYS | VARIETAL DESCRIPTION AND USE |
|---|------|--|
| SWEET CORN* | | |
| Royal Crest | 64 | First early hybrid. Short shanked with very good taste qualities. |
| Earliking | 66 | Ears 7" long, 12 row and well filled. Excellent first crop. |
| Morning Sun | 72 | Sweet tender kernels, outstanding in maturity class. |
| Golden Beauty | 73 | Uniform ears, 6 to 7½ inches long. Does well in short season. |
| Yukon | 75 | For trial. 8 to 9 inch ears. Good quality, tender pericarp. |
| Honeycomb (very similar to Sugar Loaf) | 81 | Ears 8 to 8½ inches, few if any suckers. Excellent second ear. Retains sweetness in cold storage. |
| Sugar Loaf | 83 | Similar to above. |
| Golden Cross Bantam | 84 | Plant tall, good quality; standard hybrid sweet corn. Fresh or freeze. |
| NK 199 | 84 | For trial, late. Widely used by processors, home and market gardeners. Excellent quality. |
| CUCUMBERS | | |
| Pickling: | | |
| Liberty | 48 | Blocky shape for pickling. Excellent quality. Hybrid. |
| Saladin | 55 | 1979 AAS. Gynoecious hybrid. Tolerant to Powdery Mildew and Bacterial Wilt. Excellent quality. Desirable for ripe pickles. |
| Improved Long Green | 63 | Home garden use. |
| CUCUMBERS | | |
| Slicing: | | |
| Sweet Success | 55 | 1983 AAS. Flesh crisp. 12-14". Non-bitter fruit. |
| Victory | 60 | Disease resistant, gynoecious hybrid. Good yielder, excellent quality. |
| Marketer | 66 | Dark green, smooth. Good color, long, slim shape and firm flesh. |
| Marketmore | 70 | High yield, straight. Scab and cucumber mosaic tolerance. |
| KOHLRABI | | |
| Grand Duke | 45 | 1979 AAS. Early, high quality. |
| LETTUCE (BUTTER HEAD) | | |
| Summer Bibb | 62 | Slow bolting; can be grown almost throughout the season. |
| Buttercrunch | 64 | Vigorous, very attractive, delicious leaves with tender ribs. |
| LETTUCE (HEAD) | | |
| Pennlake | 72 | Head medium to small. Interior crisp and firm. Best variety. |
| LETTUCE (LEAF) | | |
| Black Seeded Simpson | 44 | Large, upright, compact, leaves light green, broad and frilled. Good quality. |
| Grand Rapids | 45 | Popular loose leaf variety capable of continuous growth under adverse conditions. |
| MUSKMELON | | |
| | | Set out 20 day old transplants for early crop. |
| Minnesota Midget | 60 | Early, small fruited (4 inch) short vine type. |
| Delicious 51 Seeds | 90 | Large oval to round fruits; coarsely netted. Orange flesh; quality good in warm seasons. |
| Transplants | 78 | |

| VEGETABLE | DAYS | VARIETAL DESCRIPTION AND USE |
|--------------------------|------|---|
| MUSKMELON | | |
| Gold Star Hybrid | | |
| Seeds | 94 | Oval fruit, medium size, heavily netted with firm rind; flesh orange. |
| Transplants | 80 | |
| ONIONS | | |
| | | Direct seed. Use plants or sets for larger size. |
| Early Yellow Globe | 98 | Medium large, light yellow, flesh firm and white. |
| Ebenezer (sets) | 105 | Medium size. Skin yellow, flesh fine textured, mild, very firm. |
| Fiesta Hybrid | 110 | Globe shaped. Skin yellow-brown. Medium large. Firm. |
| Southport Red Globe | 110 | Medium large, deep globe shaped, skin dark glossy red. |
| Southport White Globe | 110 | Medium size, globe shaped. Skin pure white, flesh ivory-white, fine grained, mild flavor. |
| PARSNIPS* | | |
| Improved Hollow Crown | 95 | 10 inches long by 3 inches thick at the shoulder. Vigorous, good quality. |
| PEAS* | | |
| Little Marvel | 62 | Plants about 1½ feet tall; productive. 5-7 peas per pod. |
| Lincoln | 66 | Large vine, pod 3-3½ inches. 7-8 peas per pod. Long season. |
| Green Arrow | 68 | Medium vine; 9-11 tender peas in 4-4½ inch pods. |
| Sugar Snap | 70 | 1979 AAS. Edible pod. High yielding. Flavor sweet and pleasing. |
| PEPPERS* | | |
| | | Set out transplants. |
| Early Prolific | 62 | Deep green medium sized fruits; early bearing. |
| Gypsy | 65 | 1981 AAS. Yellow, tapered fruits. Salads or frying. Productive. |
| Lady Bell | 72 | Deep, blocky shape. Flesh thick sweet. Stuffing or salads. |
| PUMPKIN* | | |
| Spirit | 90 | 1977 AAS. Very early, semi-bush hybrid with 10-15 pound fruits. |
| Sugar Pie | 108 | 6-8 lbs., dark orange. Excellent for canning and pie. |
| Jack O'Lantern | 110 | Skin is bright orange. Excellent for carving. |
| RADISHES | | |
| Cherry Belle | 24 | Globe to round, bright cherry-red; solid and crisp. |
| Champion | 28 | Large, remains crisp and firm to fairly large size. |
| White Icicle | 30 | Roots 4½-5 inches long, smooth, slender, tapering. White skin, mild. |
| SPINACH | | |
| America | 52 | Leaves glossy, thick, dark green. |
| SQUASH | | |
| Summer: | | |
| Aristocrat | 48 | 1973 AAS. Bush plants. High quality, early (zucchini type). |
| Gold Rush | 50 | 1980 AAS. Golden smooth-skin, zucchini type. |
| Winter (Storage): | | |
| Sweet Mama | 85 | 1979 AAS. Short vine, smooth; medium dry texture with mild flavor. |

| VEGETABLE | DAYS | VARIETAL DESCRIPTION AND USE |
|----------------------------|------|---|
| SQUASH (cont.) | | |
| Gold Nugget | 90 | Bush type. Fruits small, flattened medium thick, golden yellow flesh. Hard orange skin. Bake whole. |
| Emerald | 100 | 1973 NDSU Introduction, bush type, very thick orange flesh of high quality. |
| Buttercup (Burgess strain) | 100 | Large vine-green skin with turban. Excellent quality. |
| TOMATOES | | |
| Cherry-type: | | |
| Small Fry | 68 | Hybrid cherry tomato. Color is bright, 1-inch fruit, marble round in shape. |
| Sweet 100 | 70 | Sweet, bright red, cherry-sized fruits. Productive. |
| Standard: | | |
| Burpee's Pixie Hyb. | 52 | Patio type. Fruits about 1 3/4" across. Big tomato flavor. |
| New Yorker | 59 | Early, medium size fruits. Very susceptible to leaf diseases. Keep sprayed with fungicide. |
| Starfire | 65 | Early determinate variety—globe-shaped fruits. |
| Sheyenne | 66 | Medium to large fruits, globular, smooth. Very productive — main crop tomato. |
| Spring Giant | 68 | Hybrid, vigorous vines. Large, deep globular fruits. |

| VEGETABLE | DAYS | VARIETAL DESCRIPTION AND USE |
|--|------|--|
| TOMATOES (cont.) | | |
| Fantastic | 70 | Early hybrid. Deep globe fruits. |
| Cannonball | 71 | 1973 NDSU Introduction. Large, deep globe-shaped fruits. Excellent quality. |
| Floramerica Hybrid | 75 | May be too late for Northern counties. Resistance or tolerance to 15 diseases. Firm, smooth, scarlet fruits. |
| WATERMELON | | |
| Set out 20 day old transplants for early crop. | | |
| Garden Baby Hyb. | 70 | Early, small vine, 5-6 lbs., icebox variety. |
| Sweet Favorite | 72 | Early, sweet. Oblong melon to 20 lbs. |
| Yellow Baby | 75 | 1975 AAS. Yellow-fleshed, sweet flavor, not seedy, early. |
| VEGETABLE | DAYS | VARIETAL DESCRIPTION AND USE |
| Sugar Baby | 75 | Ice box variety, oval-round; skin black green with faint darker strips. Very attractive when cut. |
| New Hampshire Midget | 75 | Fruits small (2-4 lbs.) oval-round, skin medium green, darker green netting. Fair quality, seedy. |
| Top Yield Hyb. | 82 | Bright red, firm, juicy flesh. Oblong 20 lb. melons. |

USEFUL GARDEN INFORMATION

| PLANT IN FIELD | VEGETABLE VARIETIES | SEED IN HOTBED | DISTANCE BETWEEN ROWS | | DISTANCE BETWEEN PLANTS | |
|--|--|----------------|-----------------------|--------|-------------------------|----------|
| | | | English | Metric | English | Metric |
| HARDY VEGETABLES (Tolerate freezing temp.): Sow seed or transplant hardened plants as early as ground is ready to work well in spring. (Average about April 20 for 2/3 of state.) | Asparagus | | 4 ft. | 122 cm | 24 in. | 61 cm |
| | Broccoli | Apr. 1 | 3 ft. | 91 cm | 18 in. | 46 cm |
| | Cabbage (early) | Apr. 1 | 3 ft. | 91 cm | 18 in. | 46 cm |
| | Cabbage (late) | Apr. 1 | 3 ft. | 91 cm | 18-24 in. | 46-61 cm |
| | Onions (seed & sets) | | 1 1/2 ft. | 46 cm | 2 in. | 5 cm |
| | Onions (transplanting) | Apr. 1 | 1 1/2 ft. | 46 cm | 4 in. | 10 cm |
| | Peas (May 1-10) | | 2 ft. | 61 cm | 2 in. | 5 cm |
| | Radishes | | 1 1/2 ft. | 46 cm | 1 in. | 3 cm |
| | Rhubarb | | 5 ft. | 152 cm | 48 in. | 122 cm |
| | Rutabaga | | 2 ft. | 61 cm | 6 in. | 91 cm |
| | Spinach (May 1) | | 2 ft. | 61 cm | 4 in. | 10 cm |
| | HALF HARDY VEGETABLES (Will tolerate light frosts): Sow seed or transplant hardened plants a week or two before average date of last killing frost in your area. (Average about May 10 for 2/3 of state.) | Beets | | 2 ft. | 61 cm | 2 in. |
| Carrots | | | 2 ft. | 61 cm | 2 in. | 5 cm |
| Cauliflower | | Apr. 1 | 3 ft. | 91 cm | 18 in. | 46 cm |
| Lettuce (leaf) | | | 2 ft. | 61 cm | 8 in. | 20 cm |
| Lettuce (head) (transplanting) | | Mar. 15 | 2 ft. | 61 cm | 15 in. | 38 cm |
| Parsnips | | | 2 ft. | 61 cm | 4 in. | 10 cm |
| Potatoes | | | 3 ft. | 91 cm | 12 in. | 30 cm |
| Swiss Chard | | 2 ft. | 61 cm | 6 in. | 91 cm | |

USEFUL GARDEN INFORMATION (cont.)

| PLANT IN FIELD | VEGETABLE VARIETIES | SEED IN HOTBED | DISTANCE BETWEEN ROWS | | DISTANCE BETWEEN PLANTS | |
|--|------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|--------|-------------------------|--------|
| | | | English | Metric | English | Metric |
| TENDER VEGETABLES: Sow seed or transplant plants when soil is warm and after average date or danger of last killing frost in your area. (Average about May 25 for 2/3 of state.) | Beans (wax and green) | | 2 ft. | 61 cm | 4 in. | 10 cm |
| | Beans (dry and field) | | 2 ft. | 61 cm | 4 in. | 10 cm |
| | Beans (lima) | | 2 ft. | 61 cm | 4 in. | 10 cm |
| | Cucumbers | | 5 ft. | 152 cm | 12 in. | 30 cm |
| | Muskmelons | | 8 ft. | 244 cm | 12 in. | 30 cm |
| | Peppers | Apr. 1 | 3 ft. | 91 cm | 18 in. | 46 cm |
| | Popcorn (May 15-20) | | 3 ft. | 91 cm | 12 in. | 30 cm |
| | Pumpkins | | 10 ft. | 305 cm | 24 in. | 61 cm |
| | Squash (summer) | | 3 ft. | 91 cm | 24 in. | 61 cm |
| | Squash (winter) | | 10 ft. | 305 cm | 24 in. | 61 cm |
| | Sweet Corn (May 10-20) | | 3 ft. | 91 cm | 12 in. | 30 cm |
| | Tomatoes | Apr. 20 | 5 ft. | 152 cm | 36 in. | 122 cm |
| | Watermelons | | 8 ft. | 244 cm | 12 in. | 30 cm |

Although many strains and varieties of garden vegetables may be acceptable, some have consistently performed well under our conditions. Suggested vegetable varieties for North Dakota are listed in order of maturity (number of days required to produce a usable product) for each kind of vegetable. Seasonal weather conditions and growing location can influence the amount of time required to mature a given vegetable. We suggest selection of short season varieties for northern sections of the state. Vegetables starred (*) suitable for freezing; all varieties acceptable.