

Vegetable Cultivar Trials 2003

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Two vegetable varieties tested in 2003.
Above: Shogun broccoli.
Left: OS Cross cabbage.
—Georgeson Botanical Garden collection



Vegetable Cultivar Trials 2003

Introduction

The vegetable cultivar trials at the Georgeson Botanical Garden (64° 51'N, 147° 52'W) provide information on new and standard cultivars useful in home and market gardens. Plots are small, and trials are replicated over three years. No attempt is made to emulate large-scale commercial production systems but rather to test a broad selection of vegetables that may be worth testing more extensively on farms and gardens throughout the Tanana Valley.

Evaluations were conducted on 162 cultivars of annual vegetables. Seventy-two cultivars were direct seeded in the garden and 90 cultivars were started in the greenhouse and transplanted into the garden according to the schedule and spacings listed in Table 4. Fairbanks silt loam soil was fertilized with 10-20-20S (4 lbs per 100 sq ft, 195 g per sq meter) prior to rototilling and seeding or transplanting.

Some of the warm season crops were grown through three-foot-wide rows of IRT (infrared transmitting) plastic mulch in order to warm the soil and control weeds. All beds were equipped with surface or subsurface trickle irrigation. No pesticides were applied throughout the season, and grass clipping mulch was applied to the aisles beginning in mid June. Weather data were compiled from a U.S. Weather Service station, elevation 475ft (145m), located approximately 450ft (137m) west of the garden. The last spring frost was 24 May (31°F, -0.6°C) (Table 1). Thaw degree-day accumulation was below the previous ten-year average of 3318.9 degree-days. The frost-free season was two days longer than the previous ten-year average. More than half of the summer precipitation occurred in July (Table 2), but there were no adverse effects on vegetable growth.

The weather statistics describe a fairly typical growing season for Fairbanks. Most cultivars grew well, and harvest dates were typical for the Fairbanks area. Fall frost occurred on 13 September and did not influence the major harvest season for most vegetables. Temperatures dropped to 23.1°F (-5°C). Soils froze 1–2 inches and remained frozen for several days. Many local growers lost potatoes to freeze damage following vine removal because of the severity of the frost.

Table 1. Previous ten-year weather data plus 2003

Season	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Average daily temperature (°F):											
May	51.9	52.0	52.3	44.1	47.8	49	46	44	45	50.4	44.2
June	60.5	57.0	58.5	57.3	61.0	57.8	61	59	56.5	57.6	61.3
July	64.5	62.0	61.9	61.9	63.8	62.2	61	59	60.5	61.3	60.5
Aug	55.5	51.0	55.6	52.1	57.1	52.4	57.5	51.5	57	53.9	55.1
Sept.	42.5	43.0	50.6	41.2	49.6	45.8	45	41	48.5	46.6	40.8
Max temp (°F)	91	89	85	82	87	87	91	83	95	85	82
Growing season:											
Last frost	1 May	6 May	22 May	5 June	25 May	13 May	29 May	15 May	13 May	12 May	24 May
First frost	1 Sept	23 Aug	4 Sept	27 Aug	19 Aug	13 Sept	11 Sept	16 Sept	24 Sept	2 Sept	13 Sept
Frost free days	123	109	105	83	86	123	105	124	134	113	112
Thaw degree days*	3547.5	3476.3	3676.5	2810.5	3655.5	3277.5	3383	2943	3439	2980.0	3122.7
Rainfall (inches)	6.67	7.21	10.15	8.73	5.86	9.87	8.66	8.55	5.80	9.35	9.91
Previous winter season:											
Min temp (°F)	-52	-37	-48	-48	-54	-48	-54	-50	-27	-36.3	-34.6
Snowfall (inches)	131.7	36.3	69	47.8	8.4	30.6	31.6	62.2	39.9	39.7	33.2

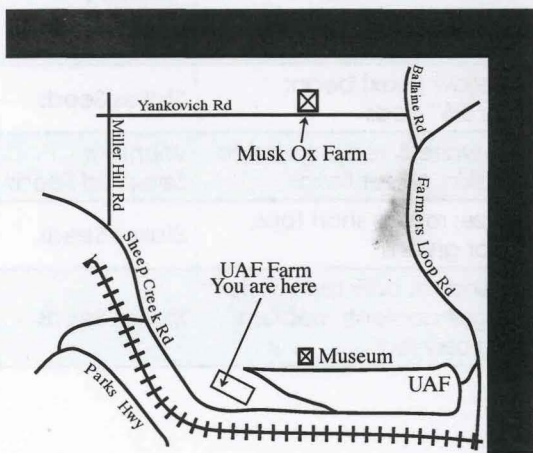
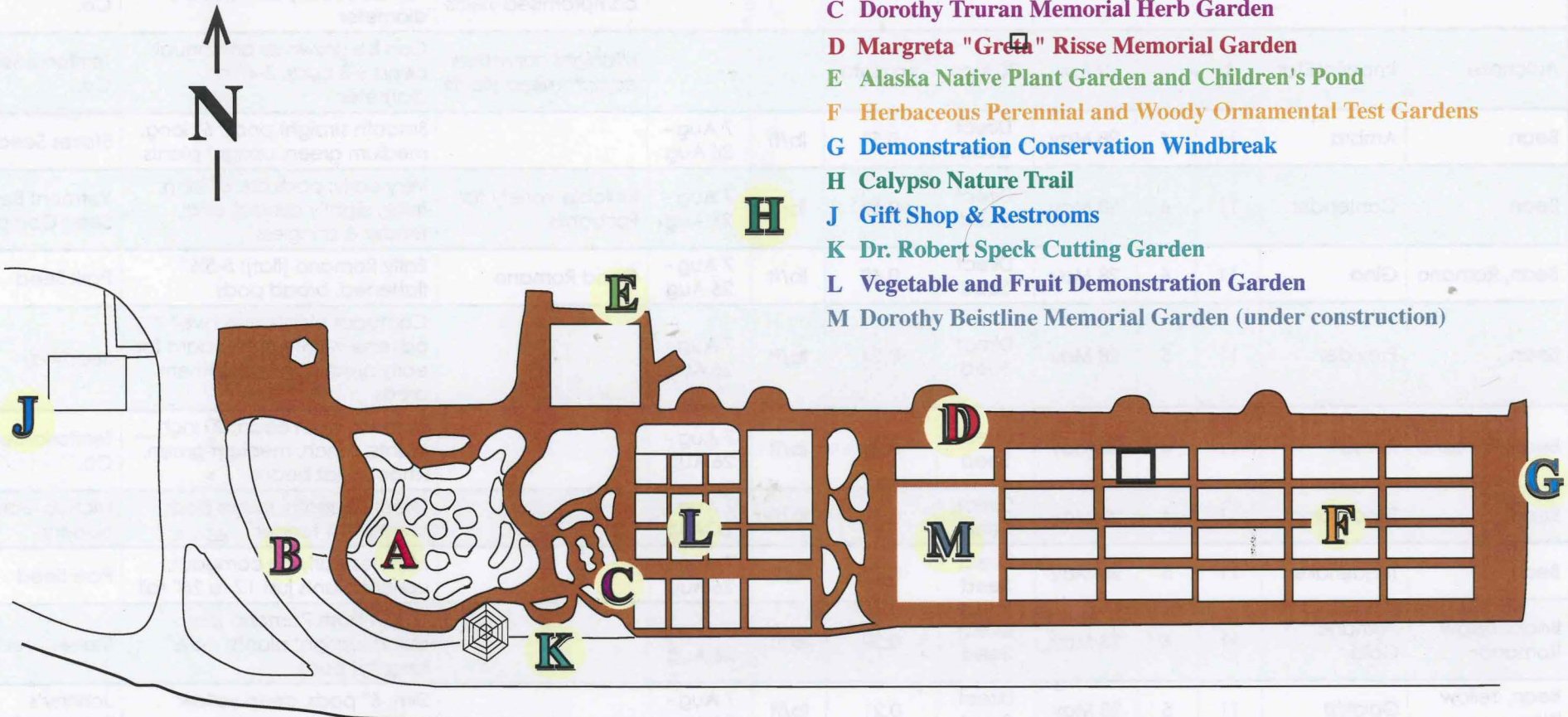
*Thaw degree days = cumulative (1 May - 30 Sept) average daily temperature minus 32°F baseline.

Table 2. Weather data for 2001 – 2003

May			June			July			August			September		
2001	2002	2003	2001	2002	2003	2001	2002	2003	2001	2002	2003	2001	2002	2003
Average daily max. °F														
55	64	55	64	69	74	70	73	70	67	64	66	61	57	50
Monthly high temp. °F														
69	85	74	95	77	82	82	83	88	77	85	76	68	67	66
Average daily min. °F														
35	37	33	49	46	48	51	50	50	47	44	44	36	36	31
Monthly low temp. °F														
20	18	27	41	33	40	40	36	41	40	34	39	29	28	17
Rainfall (inches)														
0.03	0.48	0.35	0.41	1.30	0.85	3.35	2.71	5.12	1.70	3.71	1.86	0.31	1.1	1.73

Georgeson Botanical Garden Map, 2004

- A** Perennial Landscape and All America Selections Display Garden
- B** Dr. Frank Wooding Memorial Garden
- C** Dorothy Truran Memorial Herb Garden
- D** Margreta "Greta" Risse Memorial Garden
- E** Alaska Native Plant Garden and Children's Pond
- F** Herbaceous Perennial and Woody Ornamental Test Gardens
- G** Demonstration Conservation Windbreak
- H** Calypso Nature Trail
- J** Gift Shop & Restrooms
- K** Dr. Robert Speck Cutting Garden
- L** Vegetable and Fruit Demonstration Garden
- M** Dorothy Beistline Memorial Garden (under construction)



Walking Trail



Scale

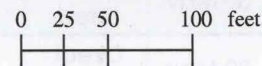


Table 3. 2003 vegetable cultivars

Common Name	Cultivar	Plot	Row	Date Seeded	Date Planted	Yield		Harvest Period	Comments	Catalog Description*	Source
Artichoke	Green Globe	rb		2 Apr	30 May	no data			Midnight harvesters compromised yields	Can be grown as an annual; flowers in early summer, 3-5" diameter	Territorial Seed Co.
Artichoke	Imperial Star	rb		2 Apr	30 May	no data			Midnight harvesters compromised yields	Can be grown as an annual; bears 6-8 buds, 3-4" in diameter	Territorial Seed Co.
Bean	Ambra	11	4	28 May	Direct Seed	0.51	lb/ft	7 Aug - 26 Aug		Smooth straight pods, 6" long, medium green; upright plants	Stokes Seeds
Bean	Contender	11	6	28 May	Direct Seed	0.59	lb/ft	7 Aug - 26 Aug	Reliable variety for Fairbanks	Very early; pods are 6" long, thick, slightly curved, oval, tender & stringless	Vermont Bean Seed Company
Bean, Romano	Gina	11	6	28 May	Direct Seed	0.60	lb/ft	7 Aug - 26 Aug	Good Romano	Early Romano (flat); 5-5½" flattened, broad pods	Park Seed
Bean	Provider	11	5	28 May	Direct Seed	0.24	lb/ft	7 Aug - 26 Aug		Compact plants; yield well in adverse weather; standard for early production in Northern areas	Seedway
Bean, Romano	Roma II	11	4	28 May	Direct Seed	0.34	lb/ft	7 Aug - 26 Aug		Romano bush bean; 20 inch plants; 6 inch, medium-green, smooth, flat beans	Territorial Seed Co.
Bean	Tendercrop	11	4	28 May	Direct Seed	0.19	lb/ft	7 Aug - 26 Aug		Green, smooth, round pods are tasty & tender	Nichols Garden Nursery
Bean	Tenderlake	11	5	28 May	Direct Seed	0.22	lb/ft	7 Aug - 26 Aug		Matures early on compact, upright plants just 12 to 24" tall	Park Seed
Bean, Yellow Romano	Romano Gold	11	6	28 May	Direct Seed	0.29	lb/ft	7 Aug - 26 Aug		Yellow bush Romano (flat); dwarf, upright plants; 4-5½" long flat pods	Stokes Seeds
Bean, Yellow Wax	Goldkist	11	5	28 May	Direct Seed	0.21	lb/ft	7 Aug - 26 Aug		Slim, 6" pods, deep yellow color	Johnny's Selected Seeds
Bean, Yellow Wax	Rocdor	11	6	28 May	Direct Seed	0.66	lb/ft	7 Aug - 26 Aug	Reliable variety for Fairbanks	Long, 6 to 6½", straight pods, deep yellow color; germinate well in cool soil	Johnny's Selected Seeds
Bean, Yellow Wax	Sunburst	11	5	28 May	Direct Seed	0.37	lb/ft	7 Aug - 26 Aug		Early yellow (wax) bean; smooth 5½" pods	Stokes Seeds
Beet	Chioggia	8	8	30 May	Direct Seed	2.55	lb/ft	22 Aug		Striking white & red rings inside scarlet skin, sweet flavor	Johnny's Selected Seeds
Beet	Little Mini Ball	8	8	30 May	Direct Seed	0.50	lb/ft	22 Aug		Small size; round; short tops, good for greens	Stokes Seeds
Beet	Pacemaker III	8	8	30 May	Direct Seed	0.85	lb/ft	22 Aug		Globe shape, dark red interior, high sugar content; medium green glossy leaf	Stokes Seeds

Common Name	Cultivar	Plot	Row	Date Seeded	Date Planted	Yield		Harvest Period	Comments	Catalog Description*	Source
Beet	Red Ace	8	8	30 May	Direct Seed	1.73	lb/ft	22 Aug		Round, smooth, deep red roots; early, medium tall, red-veined greens	Johnny's Selected Seeds
Beet	Sangria	8	8	30 May	Direct Seed	0.79	lb/ft	22 Aug		Globe shaped, excellent color; sweet, smooth & tender; slow bolting	Shepherd's Garden Seeds
Broccoli	Early Dividend	5	1	23 Apr	28 May	0.54	lb/plant	11 Jul - 15 Jul	Good, new early variety	Early but with larger heads than most early varieties	Pinetree Garden Seeds
Broccoli	Emperor	5	1	23 Apr	28 May	0.77	lb/plant	15 Jul - 1 Aug	Reliable variety for Fairbanks	Early type; large, thick, dome shaped heads; excellent quality	Otis S. Twilley Seed Co.
Broccoli	Green Valiant	5	1	23 Apr	28 May	0.81	lb/plant	25 Jul - 29 Jul	Reliable variety for Fairbanks	High quality, main season variety; deep-domed medium-large heads	Territorial Seed Co.
Broccoli	Marathon	5	2	23 Apr	28 May	1.48	lb/plant	22 Jul - 29 Jul	Large, high yields	Highly tolerant to cold; uniform heads	Johnny's Selected Seeds
Broccoli	Shogun	5	2	23 Apr	28 May	1.51	lb/plant	29 Jul - 1 Aug	Can reach 3-4lbs, 14" across in Fairbanks	Large, tightly-budded, domed heads; big side shoots; vigorous cold-resistant; holds well	West Coast Seeds
Brussels Sprouts	Jade Cross E	5	7	18 Mar	28 May	1.02	lb/plant	25 Jul - 4 Sept	Reliable variety for Fairbanks	Short season variety; uniform 2' plants; excellent quality sprouts	Harris Seeds
Brussels Sprouts	Oliver	5	7	18 Mar	28 May	0.56	lb/plant	25 Jul - 4 Sept		Leading early commercial variety; medium-dark green sprouts, 1-1½"	Harris Seeds
Brussels Sprouts	Prince Marvel	5	7	18 Mar	28 May	0.81	lb/plant	25 Jul - 4 Sept	Reliable variety for Fairbanks	Tall 3' plant; firm, dark green, medium-sized sprouts	Vermont Bean Seed Company
Brussels Sprouts	Trafalgar	5	7	18 Mar	28 May	0.26	lb/plant	13 Aug - 4 Sept		Medium sized, sweet, firm button sprouts; keeps well	Thompson & Morgan
Cabbage	Dynamo	5	5	23 Apr	28 May	4.22	lb/plant	6 Aug - 22 Aug		Small blue-green cabbage, perfect for one meal, 2 to 2½ lbs; slow to bolt, long harvest period	Nichols Garden Nursery
Cabbage	Earliana	5	6	23 Apr	28 May	4.20	lb/plant	11 Jul - 18 Jul	Good, small, early variety	Very early small, deep, round, green heads; 4½" to 5" across; 2lbs. or more	W. Atlee Burpee & Co.
Cabbage	O.S. Cross	rb		18 Mar	30 May	no data			Grown for display only	Flat top, grown for large size in Alaska	Lilly Miller
Cabbage	Primax	5	6	23 Apr	28 May	3.77	lb/plant	11 Jul - 14 Jul		Small to midsize round heads, avg. 2-4 lb, short core & good interior quality; long standing	Johnny's Selected Seeds

Common Name	Cultivar	Plot	Row	Date Seeded	Date Planted	Yield		Harvest Period	Comments	Catalog Description*	Source
Cabbage	Red Rookie	5	5	23 Apr	28 May	6.41	lb/ plant	22 Aug		Good size; uniformity; earliness & internal color	Rupp Seeds
Cabbage	Ruby Ball	5	5	23 Apr	28 May	4.88	lb/ plant	22 Aug - 4 Sept		Firm, 6-8 inch round heads; mild, sweet flavor; holds well without splitting	Territorial Seed Co.
Cabbage	Savoy Express	5	6	23 Apr	28 May	2.54	lb/ plant	11 Jul - 14 Jul	Good, early savoy	Earliest savoy (crinkled); sweet; close spacing (ca. 1 ft), small heads (ca. 1-1½ pounds)	All America Selections
Carrot	Artist	4	8	29 May	Direct Seed	1.36	lb/ft	9 Sept	Biggest, most brightly colored	Tapered, smooth, blunt roots typically 7-8" long, deep orange color, high Vitamin A content	Johnny's Selected Seeds
Carrot	Baby Orange	4	8	29 May	Direct Seed	2.94	lb/ft	2 Sept - 9 Sept		Baby; 3-5" carrot; harvest early	Stokes Seeds
Carrot	Gold Pak	4	8	29 May	Direct Seed	1.29	lb/ft	2 Sept - 9 Sept		10 x 1.25" roots, long & slender; smooth skinned, coreless	Vermont Bean Seed Company
Carrot	Little Finger	4	8	29 May	Direct Seed	1.87	lb/ft	9 Sept		Midget variety grows 3 to 4" long, ½" wide	Denali Seed Co.
Carrot	Minicor	4	8	29 May	Direct Seed	0.72	lb/ft	9 Sept		Baby, 3-5" carrot, smooth skin & excellent color, harvest early	Johnny's Selected Seeds
Carrot	Nelson	4	8	29 May	Direct Seed	0.51	lb/ft	9 Sept	Excellent flavor	Nantes-type; smooth 6-7" roots; 1-1½" shoulders; deep orange color; early	Territorial Seed Co.
Carrot	Parmex	4	8	29 May	Direct Seed	0.59	lb/ft	9 Sept		Early, Parisian market type; harvest at 1½"	Johnny's Selected Seeds
Carrot	Sweet Sunshine	4	8	29 May	Direct Seed	1.36	lb/ft	2 Sept - 9 Sept	Early harvest yellow, later harvests darker	Yellow carrot; 6½" roots; extra-sweet carrot flavor	W. Atlee Burpee & Co.
Carrot	Temptation	4	8	29 May	Direct Seed	1.23	lb/ft	9 Sept		Thick tapering Emperor type; 10" length; smooth, bright orange	Otis S. Twilley Seed Co.
Cauliflower	Andes	5	4	23 Apr	28 May	3.87	lb/ plant	31 Jul - 22 Aug	Consistently high yields, large heads	Strong upright, heavy wrapper leaves prevent yellowing without tying; heavy domed heads	Vesey's Seeds
Cauliflower	Baldo	5	4	23 Apr	28 May	1.36	lb/ plant	11 Jul - 21 Jul	Early	Creamy white heads; partially self wrapping	Stokes Seeds
Cauliflower	Brocoverde	5	3	23 Apr	28 May	0.85	lb/ plant	22 Aug - 9 Sept		Cross between cauliflower & broccoli; tastes like sweet cauliflower	Ball Seed

Common Name	Cultivar	Plot	Row	Date Seeded	Date Planted	Yield		Harvest Period	Comments	Catalog Description*	Source
Cauliflower	Fremont			23 Apr	28 May	1.95	lb/ plant	1 Aug - 22 Aug		Very white, deep, smooth curds; average 7" across; self wrap plant habit	Otis S. Twilley Seed Co.
Cauliflower	Snow Crown	5	3	23 Apr	28 May	0.85	lb/ plant	22 Jul - 25 Jul	Early	Early medium heads; All America Selection	Pinetree Garden Seeds
Celery	Florida 683	4	9	18 Mar	29 May	1.95	lb/ft	9 Sept		Higher rib count than 52-70; better heart formation; bushy, medium green	Stokes Seeds
Celery	Utah 52-70 HK	4	9	18 Mar	29 May	3.63	lb/ft	9 Sept		Dark green; uniform; compact.	Stokes Seeds
Celery	Ventura	4	9	18 Mar	29 May	4.39	lb/ft	9 Sept		Extra heavy trim weight	Stokes Seeds
Cucumber	Early Pride	11	7	7 May	5 Jun	8.61	lb/ plant	29 Jul - 2 Sept	Slicing	Slicer; dark green fruits; 8½" by 2"; crisp, juicy flesh	W. Atlee Burpee & Co.
Cucumber	Fanfare	11	8	7 May	5 Jun	6.67	lb/ plant	29 Jul - 2 Sept	Slicing	Slicer, early maturing, All America Selection, 8 to 10" fruits, semi-dwarf plants	Otis S. Twilley Seed Co.
Cucumber	H-19 Little Leaf	11	8	7 May	5 Jun	11.55	lb/ plant	29 Jul - 2 Sept	Pickling, small leaves make it easy to pick	Compact vines; half-normal size leaves; good for fresh eating & pickling	Johnny's Selected Seeds
Cucumber	Northern Pickling	11	8	7 May	5 Jun	9.09	lb/ plant	29 Jul - 2 Sept	Pickling	Pickling, fast-maturing for short season gardening, heavy yields, 4-6" cucumbers	Garden City Seeds
Cucumber	Salad Bush	11	7	7 May	5 Jun	5.21	lb/ plant	29 Jul - 2 Sept	Slicing	Slicer, bush habit, 8-9" straight dark green fruits, very early	Harris Seeds
Cucumber	Sweet Success	11	7	7 May	5 Jun	16.59	lb/ plant	29 Jul - 2 Sept	Slicing, consistent high yields	Burpless slicer; slender, long, 12" fruits; All America Selection	Shumway's (HPS)
Cucumber	Sweeter Yet	11	7	7 May	5 Jun	0.17	lb/ plant	2 Sept		Early burpless slicer; 10-12" dark green fruit; compact semi-bush type plants	Vesey's Seeds
Eggplant	Bride	rb		18 Mar	30 May	0.28	lb/ plant	11 Sept		Slim 8" long, 1½" wide fruit; rose, light rose/white stripes & pure white fruit	Stokes Seeds
Eggplant	Early Bird	rb		18 Mar	30 May	0.68	lb/ plant	11 Sept		Earliest thick-fruited eggplant	Park Seed
Eggplant	Green Goddess	rb		18 Mar	30 May	1.43	lb/ plant	3 Sept		Light green skin, fruits 8" long, less than 2" diameter	Nichols Garden Nursery
Eggplant	Orient Express	rb		18 Mar	30 May	0.93	lb/ plant	29 Jul - 11 Sept	Early black oriental type	Glossy black fruits, long Asian style; early; ability to set fruit in cool weather	Johnny's Selected Seeds

Common Name	Cultivar	Plot	Row	Date Seeded	Date Planted	Yield		Harvest Period	Comments	Catalog Description*	Source
Eggplant	Snowy	rb		18-Mar	30-May	1.28	lb/ plant	25 Jul - 3 Sept	Nice white oriental type eggplant, early	Ivory-white, nicely shaped, long, uniform fruit; early & productive	Johnny's Selected Seeds
Kale	Red Russian	8	1	30-May	Direct Seed	3.64	lb/ft	12 Sept	Consistent high yields, attractive in garden	Grey-green leaves with purple stems & veins	West Coast Seeds
Kale	Toscana	8	1	30 May	Direct Seed	1.31	lb/ft	12 Sept		Dark green, blistered leaves, mild flavor & vitamin rich	Johnny's Selected Seeds
Kale	Winterbor	8	1	30 May	Direct Seed	2.60	lb/ft	12 Sept		Finely curled, thick, blue-green leaves; 2' tall	Territorial Seed Co.
Kohlrabi	Eder	8	8	30 May	Direct Seed	2.22	lb/ft	12 Aug - 22 Aug		Extra-early white; tender & fast maturing	Johnny's Selected Seeds
Kohlrabi	Grand Duke	8	8	30 May	Direct Seed	2.21	lb/ft	12 Aug - 22 Aug		Very early; uniform, smooth, round bulbs with crisp, white flesh; vigorous small plants	Vermont Bean Seed Company
Kohlrabi	Kolibri	8	8	30 May	Direct Seed	2.50	lb/ft	12 Aug - 22 Aug		Purple-skinned with a cream interior; flatish-round, 4-6" wide; allows for closer planting	Territorial Seed Co.
Leek	Arena	4	9	12 Mar	29 May	3.37	lb/ft	10 Sept		Upright growing; blue-green; long white 7" shafts; consistent uniform yields	Vesey's Seeds
Leek	King Richard	4	9	19 Mar	29 May	1.74	lb/ft	10 Sept		Extra long, 15", slim stems; stay sweet tender, & white all season long	West Coast Seeds
Leek	Pancho	4	9	12 Mar	29 May	4.23	lb/ft	10 Sept		Sticky, short-shanked summer leek; excellent quality	Seeds of Change
Lettuce, Butterhead	Edox M.I.	8	4	23 Apr	30 May	1.32	lb/ft	8 Jul - 11 Jul		Medium sized red Boston; deep red color; firm leaves; tolerances to poor weather	Stokes Seeds
Lettuce, Butterhead	Ermosa	8	4	23 Apr	30 May	1.37	lb/ft	8 Jul - 11 Jul		Dark green, summer Boston type; tolerant to tipburn & bolting	Johnny's Selected Seeds
Lettuce, Butterhead	Esmeralda M.I.	8	4	23 Apr	30 May	1.93	lb/ft	8 Jul - 18 Jul		Standard medium green Boston; slow bolting; tipburn tolerant	Stokes Seeds
Lettuce, Butterhead	Mikola	8	6	23 Apr	30 May	0.65	lb/ft	8 Jul		Red, compact, heavy heads; leaves have green base with uniform red edge	Johnny's Selected Seeds
Lettuce, Butterhead	Sangria	8	4	23 Apr	30 May	1.31	lb/ft	11 Jul - 18 Jul		Red butterhead; medium dark green leaves tinged red; resistant to bolting, tipburn	Stokes Seeds

Common Name	Cultivar	Plot	Row	Date Seeded	Date Planted	Yield		Harvest Period	Comments	Catalog Description*	Source
Lettuce, Crisphead	Burgundy Ice	8	6	23 Apr	30 May	1.89	lb/ft	15 Jul - 18 Jul		Small-to-medium head lettuce; outer leaves blushed with burgundy, crisp inner leaves light green	W. Atlee Burpee & Co.
Lettuce, Crisphead	Continuity	8	6	23 Apr	30 May	0.66	lb/ft	18 Jul	tipburn	Early-maturing crisphead; red leaves tinged with green; heirloom, bred in 1900	Seeds of Change
Lettuce, Leaf	Bronze Arrow	8	2	30 May	Direct Seed	continous cutting		16 Jul - 6 Aug	nice color, began to bolt by 6 Aug	Red tinged with green heirloom; slow to bolt; very cold hardy	Seeds of Change
Lettuce, Leaf	Brunia Oakleaf	8	3	30 May	Direct Seed	no harvest data		16 Jul - 6 Aug	nice color, some rotting by 6 Aug	Long, slender, indented leaves, olive-green at base, reddish-brown at tips; slow to bolt	West Coast Seeds
Lettuce, Leaf	Cocarde	8		30 May	Direct Seed			16 Jul - 6 Aug		Large, upright, trumpet-shaped heads; lobed, dark green leaves w/purplish-red overlay; slow bolting	Johnny's Selected Seeds
Lettuce, Leaf	Galactic	8	2	30 May	Direct Seed			16 Jul - 6 Aug	beautiful, holds well	Dark red; mild flavor	Shepherd's Garden Seeds
Lettuce, Leaf	Green Ice	8	2	30 May	Direct Seed			16 Jul - 6 Aug	holds well	Green, glossy, savoyed (crinkly) leaves; tight, compact heads	Pinetree Garden Seeds
Lettuce, Leaf	New Red Fire	8	2	30 May	Direct Seed			16 Jul - 6 Aug	nice red, beginning to fade by 6 Aug	Dark red, tight & compact, slow to bolt, good flavour	Harris Seeds
Lettuce, Leaf	Red Rage	8	2	30 May	Direct Seed			16 Jul - 6 Aug	fading by late July	Dark red color	Stokes Seeds
Lettuce, Leaf	Red Sails	8	2	30 May	Direct Seed			16 Jul - 6 Aug	beginning to fade by 6 Aug	Compact heads; ruffled leaves, green overlaid w/deep burgundy; resists tipburn; All America Selection	Johnny's Selected Seeds
Lettuce, Leaf	Revolution	8	3	30 May	Direct Seed			16 Jul - 6 Aug	beautiful, holds well	Deep, intense red lettuce; 10-12"; lollo rossa type; deeply frilled leaves; slow to bolt	Territorial Seed Co.
Lettuce, Leaf	Royal Oak Leaf	8	3	30 May	Direct Seed			16 Jul - 6 Aug	nice color, slight fading by 6 Aug	Spicy flavor, bronze-red, oak-shaped leaves	Ball Seed
Lettuce, Leaf	Ruby Ruffles	8	3	30 May	Direct Seed			16 Jul - 6 Aug	good color, poor condition by 6 Aug	Deep burgundy, deeply puckered leaves	Park Seed
Lettuce, Romaine	Cimmaron	8	5	23 Apr	30 May	4.51	lb/ft	11 Jul - 14 Jul		Deep red romaine; rarely bolts; good flavor & crisp, tender texture	Garden City Seeds

Common Name	Cultivar	Plot	Row	Date Seeded	Date Planted	Yield		Harvest Period	Comments	Catalog Description*	Source
Lettuce, Romaine	Devil's Tongue	8	5	23 Apr	30 May	0.91	lb/ft	11 Jul - 18 Jul		Leaves turn from light green to green overlaid with red, new growth deep red; best picked small	Territorial Seed Co.
Lettuce, Romaine	Eruption	8	5	23 Apr	30 May	1.24	lb/ft	15 Jul - 18 Jul		Intensely red; savoy leaves; heads will reach 8" tall; slow bolting; resistant to tipburn	Vesey's Seeds
Lettuce, Romaine	Freckles	8	6	23 Apr	30 May	1.44	lb/ft	11 Jul	tipburns easily	Speckled foliage; nutty taste; slow to bolt	Harris Seeds
Lettuce, Romaine	Giant Caesar	8	6	23 Apr	30 May	1.85	lb/ft	11 Jul	susceptible to tipburn	Medium to dark green; vigorous plants; 16" long by 6" wide heads	W. Atlee Burpee & Co.
Lettuce, Romaine	Outredgeous	8	6	23 Apr	30 May	2.62	lb/ft	11 Jul - 15 Jul		Outstanding; solid bright red	Johnny's Selected Seeds
Lettuce, Romaine	Romulus	8	5	23 Apr	30 May	1.39	lb/ft	14 Jul - 18 Jul	susceptible to tipburn	Green; sweet & mild flavour; slow to bitter; heads 9 to 12" tall; slightly savoyed leaves	Vermont Bean Seed Company
Lettuce, Romaine	Rosalita	8	6	23 Apr	30 May	1.66	lb/ft	11 Jul - 15 Jul	susceptible to tipburn	Early red romaine, medium sized, compact	Ornamental Edibles
Pea	Green Arrow	11	3	28 May	Direct Seed	1.42	lb/ft	14 Aug - 22 Aug	Reliable variety for Fairbanks	A favorite variety in Canada & Alaska; excellent flavor; high yields	Seedway
Pea	Lincoln	11	3	28 May	Direct Seed	0.36	lb/ft	14 Aug - 22 Aug		Slender 3" pods, avg. 8-9 small peas; bushy 28" plants	Stokes Seeds
Pea	Mr Big	11	2	28 May	Direct Seed	0.72	lb/ft	14 Aug - 22 Aug		Large pods; early; indeterminate vine, 2-3', needs support; 58 to 62 days	Burpee Seed
Pea	Novella II	11	3	28 May	Direct Seed	0.23	lb/ft	22 Aug - 27 Aug	Easy to pick, doesn't require trellising	Semi-leafless pea; needs no trellising; easy to pick; plant 5 rows 7" apart, 4" between plants in row	Garden City Seeds
Pea, Snap	Cascadia	11	2	28 May	Direct Seed	0.54	lb/ft	7 Aug - 22 Aug	Nice short vined sugar snap type	Short vine, compact bush; larger 3" dark green pods	Stokes Seeds
Pea, Snap	Sugar Sprint Snap	11	1	28 May	Direct Seed	0.27	lb/ft	7 Aug - 27 Aug		Sweet stringless pods; early; short 24" vines	Nichols Garden Nursery
Pea, Snap	Sugarsnap	11	1	28 May	Direct Seed	0.40	lb/ft	7 Aug - 22 Aug		Tall vines, 6' or more, need support; pods are about 3"; long picking period; All America Selection	Johnny's Selected Seeds

Common Name	Cultivar	Plot	Row	Date Seeded	Date Planted	Yield		Harvest Period	Comments	Catalog Description*	Source
Pea, Snap	Super Sugar Snap	11	1	28 May	Direct Seed	0.56	lb/ft	7 Aug - 22 Aug	High yielding sugar snap type	Improved strain of "Sugar Snap"; pods are plumper, more numerous; plants more disease resistant	Harris Seeds
Pea, Snow	Oregon Sugar Pod II	11	1	28 May	Direct Seed	0.76	lb/ft	7 Aug - 27 Aug		Nonclimbing dwarf vines; 30" tall; hold their pods up for easy picking; pods are 4-5" long	Territorial Seed Co.
Pea, Snow	Snow Green	11	2	28 May	Direct Seed	0.38	lb/ft	7 Aug - 22 Aug		Medium-sized, 3¼ to 3½" pods borne on 28" vines; do not need support	Johnny's Selected Seeds
Pepper	Blushing Beauty	rb		2 Apr	30 May	0.69	lb/plant	3 Sept - 11 Sept	Sweet bell, All America Selection	Bushy compact, peppers blush from ivory to pink & red as they mature	All America Selections
Pepper	Fajita Bell	rb		2 Apr	30 May	1.61	lb/plant	7 Aug - 11 Sept	Medium hot bell pepper	Large-fruited, moderately hot, bell pepper; compact, 18" tall; 3-4 lobed fruit	Vesey's Seeds
Pepper	Giant Marconi	rb		2 Apr	30 May	3.23	lb/plant	25 Jul - 11 Sept	Sweet Italian style pepper	Italian sweet pepper; sweet, smoky flavor	All America Selections
Pepper	Gypsy	rb		2 Apr	30 May	1.34	lb/plant	3 Sept - 11 Sept	Yellow sweet banana	Yellow, thick-walled sweet pepper; 6-7" tapers to a point	West Coast Seeds
Pepper	Hungarian Wax	rb		2 Apr	30 May	1.29	lb/plant	29 Jul - 11 Sept	Very slightly hot yellow	Fairly hot; canary yellow; fruits 8" long, tapered	W. Atlee Burpee & Co.
Pepper	New Ace	rb		2 Apr	30 May	0.57	lb/plant	11 Sept	Sweet bell	Sets fruit well in cool weather; fruits are medium in size & flavor is good	Pinetree Garden Seeds
Pepper	Park's Early Thickset	rb		2 Apr	30 May	0.80	lb/plant	2 Sept - 11 Sept	Sweet bell	Early Bell; 3- to 4-lobed, thick walled fruit	Park Seed
Pepper	Senorita	rb		2 Apr	30 May	0.53	lb/plant	3 Sep - 11 Sept	Medium hot bell pepper	Bears mild jalapeños, 3" long, 1½" wide; 2' tall upright plants	Territorial Seed Co.
Pepper	Thai Hot	gh/rb		2 Apr	30 May	0.78	lb/plant	25 Jul - 11 Sept	Hot cayenne	Hot, thin, tapered 1" fruits	Park Seed
Pumpkin	Connecticut Field	9	1&2	30 Apr	5 Jun	135.50	lb/plant	10 Sept	Large	Standard Hallowe'en pumpkin; 15-25 lbs	Stokes Seeds
Pumpkin	New England Pie	9	2	30 Apr	5 Jun	63.20	lb/plant	10 Sept	Small pie	Small-sized, avg. 4-7 lb; dark orange skin; well-colored, orange stringless flesh	Johnny's Selected Seeds
Pumpkin	Orange Smoothie	9	2	30 Apr	5 Jun	29.40	lb/plant	10 Sept		Medium-small, smooth painter, avg. 6-9 lb; bright orange; semi-bush: All America Selection	Johnny's Selected Seeds

Common Name	Cultivar	Plot	Row	Date Seeded	Date Planted	Yield		Harvest Period	Comments	Catalog Description*	Source
Pumpkin	Racer	9	3	30 Apr	5 Jun	106.45	lb/ plant	10 Sept		Extra early; medium size, 12-18 lb; highly productive; vigorous; short vine	Johnny's Selected Seeds
Pumpkin	Rock Star	9	3	30 Apr	5 Jun	96.95	lb/ plant	10 Sept		Vigorous growing; avg. 25 lb. pumpkin with earlier maturity; better adaptability to weather; long vine.	Johnny's Selected Seeds
Pumpkin	Sorcerer	9	1	30 Apr	5 Jun	127.80	lb/ plant	10 Sept		15 to 22 pounds; produced on compact vine	All America Selections
Pumpkin	Wee-B-Little	9	1	30 Apr	5 Jun	6.90	lb/ plant	10 Sept	Very small ornamental	Miniature orange, ca. 8oz-1lb; bush type, saves space	All America Selections
Radish	Burpee White	8	10	30 May	Direct Seed	0.36	lb/ft	1 Jul - 7 Jul	Very nice shape	Globe-shaped white roots; best eaten when 1" across	W. Atlee Burpee & Co.
Radish	Cherriette	8	10	30 May	Direct Seed	0.35	lb/ft	25 Jun - 7 Jul	Nice red color, nice shape,	Cherry Belle type; holds well	Harris Seeds
Radish	Cherry Belle	8	10	30 May	Direct Seed	0.30	lb/ft	25 Jun - 7 Jul	Mostly elongate	Bright red; outstanding keeping quality	Otis S. Twilley Seed Co.
Radish	Easter Egg	8	10	30 May	Direct Seed	0.18	lb/ft	1 Jul - 7 Jul	Red, purple and white	Mix of red, purple, & white radishes: mature over an extended period; stay crisp & mild even when large	Johnny's Selected Seeds
Radish	Reggae	8	10	30 May	Direct Seed	0.41	lb/ft	25 Jun - 7 Jul	Nice red color, Nice shape,	Large, round, bright red globes, holds well	Park Seed
Radish	Sora	8	10	30 May	Direct Seed	0.43	lb/ft	25 Jun - 7 Jul	Nice red color, nice shape, early	Large, smooth, bright red; round; solid texture	Johnny's Selected Seeds
Radish	Vintage	8	10	30 May	Direct Seed	0.33	lb/ft	25 Jun - 7 Jul	Purple, off color	No longer available?	Harris Seeds
Spinach	Correnta	8	7	30 May	Direct Seed	1.38	lb/ft	7 Jul		Smooth leaved hybrid; dark green	Shepherd's Garden Seeds
Spinach	Giant 157	8	7	30 May	Direct Seed	0.71	lb/ft	7 Jul		Extra-large, smooth, heavy leaves; very productive	W. Atlee Burpee & Co.
Spinach	Green Magic	8	7	30 May	Direct Seed	1.39	lb/ft	7 Jul		Savoy hybrid; dark green, crinkled, crisp leaves; upright habit for ease of harvest; fast growing; slow bolting	Vesey's Seeds
Spinach	Melody	8	7	30 May	Direct Seed	1.90	lb/ft	7 Jul	Most reliable for Fairbanks, resists bolting	Semi-savoy hybrid; upright plants; deep green leaves	Stokes Seeds
Spinach	Tyee	8	7	30 May	Direct Seed	1.43	lb/ft	7 Jul	Good variety for Fairbanks	Semi-savoy, dark green, spreading habit	Stokes Seeds

Common Name	Cultivar	Plot	Row	Date Seeded	Date Planted	Yield		Harvest Period	Comments	Catalog Description*	Source
Squash, Spaghetti	Hi Beta Gold	7	2	30 Apr	5 Jun	1.40	lb/ plant	11 Sept		Bright orange color throughout, higher in beta carotene (vitamin A)	Pinetree Garden Seeds
Squash, Spaghetti	Small Wonder	7	1&3	30 Apr	5 Jun	no data	lb/ plant	10 Aug - 11 Sept	Excellent small spaghetti squash, high yields	Small fruit comes in "single serving" size	Park Seed
Squash, Summer	Early Prolific	12	1	7 May	5 Jun	7.46	lb/ plant	31 Jul - 11 Sept		Straight neck, lemon yellow, harvest 4-7" long, firm, fine grained flesh	Garden City Seeds
Squash, Summer	Eight Ball	12	1	7 May	5 Jun	26.75	lb/ plant	18 Jul - 4 Sept	Round zucchini	Dark green, round zucchini; harvest young, the size of a golf ball	All America Selections
Squash, Summer	Papaya Pear	12	1	7 May	5 Jun	15.18	lb/ plant	1 Aug - 11 Sept	Interesting papaya shape, sweet mild flavor	Early; bright yellow, shape similar to papaya, semi-bush, pick young ca. 3" long x 2-3" wide	All America Selections
Squash, Summer	Raven	12	1	7 May	5 Jun	17.63	lb/ plant	15 Jul - 11 Sept	Zucchini	Zucchini; darker green skin contains higher levels of lutein, a highly effective antioxidant	Johnny's Selected Seeds
Squash, Summer	Sunburst	12	1	7 May	5 Jun	5.49	lb/ plant	6 Aug - 11 Sept	Patty pan	Bright yellow patty pan; harvest small 3"; All America Selection	Stokes Seeds
Squash, Summer	Sunray	12	1	7 May	5 Jun	6.68	lb/ plant	7 Aug - 11 Sept		Straightneck squash; rich, butter yellow; holds color longer than most varieties	W. Atlee Burpee & Co.
Squash, Summer	Super Zuke Hybrid	12	1	7 May	5 Jun	37.14	lb/ plant	15 Jul - 11 Sept	Zucchini	Zucchini; bush-type plants; nutty flavor	W. Atlee Burpee & Co.
Squash, Winter	Ambercup	7	1	30 Apr	5 Jun	52.40	lb/ plant	11 Sept	Reliable variety for Fairbanks	Bright orange buttercup, 2 lbs; long shelf life; high yields; bright orange flesh	Stokes Seeds
Squash, Winter	Cornell's Bush Delicata	7	1	30 Apr	5 Jun	0.15	lb/ plant	11 Sept	Low yield probably due to long daylengths that inhibit flower production on some squash	Delicata squash; orange fine textured flesh; rich in vitamin A	All America Selections
Squash, Winter	Gold Nugget	7	2	30 Apr	5-Jun	22.30	lb/ plant	11 Sept		Developed as substitute for sweet potato in short-season areas; 3-4' bush; 1-1½lb fruit; All America Selection	Territorial Seed Co.
Squash, Winter	Mini Green Hubbard	7	2	30 Apr	5 Jun	36.30	lb/ plant	11 Sept		Small Hubbard; medium green; average 2½ lbs	Stokes Seeds

Common Name	Cultivar	Plot	Row	Date Seeded	Date Planted	Yield		Harvest Period	Comments	Catalog Description*	Source
Squash, Winter	Sunshine	7	3	30 Apr	5 Jun	33.40	lb/ plant	11 Sept		Vibrant orange-red skin, flattened globe shape; sweet, nutty, creamy smooth; 6 to 8' spacing	All America Selections
Squash, Winter	Sweet Mama	7	3	30 Apr	5 Jun	50.50	lb/ plant	11 Sept	Reliable variety for Fairbanks	Buttercup hybrid; 4 ft vines; green-grey fruit, 2½ lbs, stores 5 months; All America Selection	Stokes Seeds
Sweet Corn	Custer	1		15 May	Direct Seed	1.76	lb/ft	NA	Latest, sugary enhanced, sweeter	Earliest large, sugary enhanced (se); replaces EarliVee	Stokes Seeds
Sweet Corn	Earlivee	1		15 May	Direct Seed	6.01	lb/ft	NA	3rd Early	Early; normal sugary gene type; large, well-filled 6-7 inch ears	Territorial Seed Co.
Sweet Corn	Grant	1		15 May	Direct Seed	3.15	lb/ft	NA	4th early, sugary, enhanced, sweeter	Earliest sugary enhanced (se); replaces Polar Vee, longer, slim ear	Stokes Seeds
Sweet Corn	Polar Vee	1		15 May	Direct Seed	1.27	lb/ft	NA	2nd early, very poor germination in 2003	Early; normal sugary gene type; 6-6½" ears	Vermont Bean Seed Company
Sweet Corn	Yukon Chief	1		15 May	Direct Seed	0.96	lb/ft	NA	Earliest, reduced germination in 2003	Bred at UAF; exceptionally early dwarf corn; 5-6 inch ears; excellent cold soil emergence	Garden City Seeds
Swiss Chard	Bright Lights	8	1	30 May	Direct Seed	1.03	lb/ft	12 Sept		Multicolor stems of gold, pink, orange, purple, red, & white with both deep & pastel variations	All America Selections
Swiss Chard	Bright Yellow	8	1	30 May	Direct Seed	1.14	lb/ft	12 Sept		Bright yellow stems & leaf veins contrast with deep green leaves; sweet, mild taste	Johnny's Selected Seeds
Swiss Chard	Neon Lights	8	1	30 May	Direct Seed	0.67	lb/ft	12 Sept		Blend of five varieties: golden yellow, intense red, 2 white shades & rich magenta	W. Atlee Burpee & Co.
Swiss Chard	Silverado	8	1	30 May	Direct Seed	1.17	lb/ft	12 Sept		Compact 16" plant; dark green, deeply savoyed, leaves; broad white stems; slow to bolt	Stokes Seeds
Swiss Chard	White King	8	1	30 May	Direct Seed	1.49	lb/ft	12 Sept		Large thick white ribs; extra dark green heavily savoyed leaves	Stokes Seeds
Tomatillo	Toma Verde	rb		15 Apr	30 May	2.17	lb/ plant	2 Sept - 11 Sept		4-foot bush; 2-oz. fruits in papery brown husks; harvest when greenish fruits turn pale yellow	Park Seed

Table 4. 2003 seeding & transplanting dates and spacing of vegetable cultivars

		Spacing						
Common Name	Cultivar	Bed #	Date		Within Row	Between Rows	IRT	
			Seeded	Transplanted			Mulch	Comments
Artichoke		rb†	2 Apr	30 May	2'	5'	Yes	
Bean		11	28 May	Direct Seed	2"	3'		
Beet		8	30 May	Direct Seed	3"	2'		
Broccoli		5	23 Apr	28 May	16"	3'		
Brussels Sprouts		5	18 Mar	28 May	2'	3'		
Cabbage		5	23 Apr	28 May	16"	3'		
Cabbage	OS Cross*	rb†	18 Mar	30 May	12"	3'		
Cabbage	Earliana*	5	23 Apr	28 May	12"	3'		
Cabbage	Primax*	5	23 Apr	28 May	12"	3'		
Cabbage	Savoy Express*	5	23 Apr	28 May	12"	3'		
Carrot		4	29 May	Direct Seed	1 1/2"	18"		
Cauliflower		5	23 Apr	28 May	16"	3'		
Celery		4	18 Mar	29 May	6"	3'		Staggered double row, 6" spacing both directions
Cucumber		11	7 May	5 Jun	2.5'	5'	Yes	
Eggplant		rb†	18 Mar	30 May	12"	5'	Yes	Planted 2 rows of plants 1' apart in 3' mulched row
Kale		8	30 May	Direct Seed	12"	2'		
Kohlrabi		8	30 May	Direct Seed	5"	2'		
Leek		4	12 Mar	29 May	3"	3'		
Lettuce, Butterhead		8	23 Apr	30 May	10"	2'		
Lettuce, Crisphead		8	23 Apr	30 May	10"	2'		
Lettuce, Leaf		8	30 May	Direct Seed	10"	2'		
Lettuce, Romaine		8	23 Apr	30 May	10"	2'		
Pea		11	28 May	Direct Seed	1"	3'		Double rows spaced 6" apart
Pea, Snap		11	28 May	Direct Seed	1"	3'		
Pea, Snow		11	28 May	Direct Seed	1"	3'		
Pepper		rb†	2 Apr	30 May	12"	5'	Yes	Planted 2 rows of plants 1' apart in 3' mulched row
Pumpkin		9	30 Apr	5 Jun	7'	7'	Yes	
Pumpkin	Racer*	9	30 Apr	5 Jun	5'	7'	Yes	
Pumpkin	Rock Star*	9	30 Apr	5 Jun	5'	7'	Yes	
Radish		8	30 May	Direct Seed	1"	2'		

Common Name	Cultivar	#	Date Seeded	Date Transplanted	Within Row	Between Rows	Mulch	Comments
Spinach		8	30 May	Direct Seed	4"	2'		
Squash, Spaghetti		7	30 Apr	5 Jun	7'	7'	Yes	
Squash, Summer		12	7 May	5 Jun	3'	5'	Yes	
Squash, Winter		7	30 Apr	5 Jun	7'	7'	Yes	
Squash, Winter	Cornell's Bush Delicata*	7	30 Apr	5 Jun	4'	7'	Yes	
Sweet Corn		1	15 May	Direct Seed	12"	5'	Yes	Planted 3 seeds per hill, not thinned
Swiss Chard		8	30 May	Direct Seed	12"	2'		
Tomatillo		rb†	15 Apr	30 May	18"	5'	Yes	

* Cultivars that were planted at different spacing than other cultivars of the same type
† raised beds

Special Thanks!

We thank all of our business, government, volunteer, and nonprofit partners who support the Garden with seeds, plants, other donations and discounts.

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About the Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station

The federal Hatch Act of 1887 authorized establishment of agricultural experiment stations in the U.S. and its territories to provide science-based research information to farmers. There are agricultural experiment stations in each of the 50 states, Puerto Rico, and Guam. All are part of the land-grant college system. The Morrill Act established the land-grant colleges in 1862. While the experiment stations perform agricultural research, the land-grant colleges provide education in the science and economics of agriculture.

The first experiment station in Alaska was established in Sitka in 1898. Subsequent stations were opened at Kodiak, Kenai, Rampart, Copper Center, Fairbanks, and Matanuska. The latter two remain. None were originally part of the Alaska land-grant college system. The Alaska Agricultural College and School of Mines was established by the Morrill Act in 1922. It became the University of Alaska in 1935. The Fairbanks and Matanuska stations now form the Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station of the University of Alaska Fairbanks, which also includes the Palmer Research Center.

Early experiment station researchers developed adapted cultivars of grains, grasses, potatoes, and berries, and introduced many vegetable cultivars appropriate to Alaska. Animal and poultry management was also important. This work continues, as does research in soils and revegetation, forest ecology and management, and rural and economic development. Change has been constant as the Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station continues to bring state-of-the-art research information to its clientele.

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Without our dedicated volunteers, continued growth and success of the Georgeson Botanical Garden would not be possible. A big thank you to our 2003 volunteers!

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