



UC Master Gardener Program of Humboldt & Del Norte Counties

# When to Plant What on the Humboldt & Del Norte Coasts

Sow seeds during the shaded times. When transplanting seedlings, shift dates three weeks right.

This is only a rough guide. Dates vary significantly between microclimates and from year to year.

Crop	February		March		April		May		June		July		August		September		October	
	early	late	early	late	early	late	early	late	early	late	early	late	early	late	early	late	early	late
Carrots (DS, SS6); Parsley (TSP); Parsnips (DS)																		
Lettuce (TSP or DS, SS2); Spinach (DS, SS2); Cilantro (DS, SS2); Dill (DS, SS3)	GH	GH															GH	GH
Summer Squash (TSP or DS, F); Zucchini (TSP or DS, F); Cucumbers (TSP or DS, F)																		
Broccoli (TSP, SS3); Cabbage (TSP, SS4); Cauliflower (TSP, SS2); Kale (TSP); Chard (TSP);																		
Bok Choy (TSP, SS2); Chinese Cabbage (TSP, SS2)																		
Radishes (DS, SS1); Asian greens (DS, SS2); Arugula (DS, SS2)																		
Pumpkins (DS, F); Winter squash (DS, F)																		
Peas (DS, SS3)															GH	GH	GH	GH
Dry Beans (DS, F)																		
Snap Beans (DS, SS3, F)																		
Winter Cover Crops (DS)																		
Onions (TSP)																		
Garlic (DS)																		
Leeks (TSP); Green Onions (DS, SS4)																		
Oats (DS); Rye (DS)																		
Grain Corn (DS, H, F); Sweet Corn (DS, SS2, H, F); Wheat (DS)																		
Potatoes (DS)																		
Tomatoes (TSP, H, F); Peppers (TSP, H, F); Eggplant (TSP, H, F); Tomatillos (TSP, F); Basil (TSP, H, F)	GH	GH																

## KEY:

**DS** - Direct seed: These crops are sown by placing the seed directly in the soil.

**F** - Frost: These plants are killed by frosts. When and if your garden receives frosts is highly variable. The generalized frost period for H/DN counties is before May 15th and after Oct. 15th. Frost sensitive plants planted outside during the frost period should be protected by floating row covers.

**GH** - Greenhouse: Use these dates only if the crop is growing in a greenhouse or cold frame.

**H** - Hot: These plants are marginal growers on the coast. For reliable harvests, plant in a greenhouse.

**SS** - Succession: To attain a continuous harvest from these crops during their growing season, you must plant them at regular intervals. The number next to the 'SS' refers to the approximate weeks between sowings (i.e., SS2 means sow every two weeks).

**TSP** - Transplant: These crops are sown in pots or flats, then transplanted to the garden when they have two true leaves.

## MISC:

**Brussels Sprouts** take a long time to grow; sow them in early July.

**Celery** should be sown in flats no later than the end of June.

**Flowers & Herbs** – Cultivation varies widely, see seed packet or other literature. Rule of thumb: sow annuals like lettuce early in the season. Sow herbaceous perennials in spring or early summer.

**Strawberries (Perennial)** – May be planted in mid fall or early spring (Mar-Apr). Will produce strongly for 2-3 years; propagate from runners to new patch. Plant ever-bearing varieties (e.g., Albion, Seascape) for an extended harvest period. Protect blooming plants from frost.

**Trees, Berries, and other woody perennials** should be planted while dormant (Dec-Feb).

Sourced from "The Humboldt Kitchen Gardener" by Eddie Tanner, © 2008. Used with permission.