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Plant a Garden This Spring

Frank I. Rockwell

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Plant a Garden This Spring

Rationing is Here—Don’t Be Caught Short
To Have Vegetables — Grow Your Own — Raise a Garden

Canned fruits and vegetables are being rationed. Garden foods are urgently needed. One way all can help is by raising an efficient well-planned GARDEN.

**Is Vitally Important**

Things to do to insure enough moisture for your garden are:

- **Location and soil** — Locate your garden in a deep, fertile loam, where it is protected from drying south and west winds.
- **Windbreak** — Protect your garden with a permanent or temporary windbreak which will collect snow and reduce evaporation.
- **Irrigation** — Irrigate from a well or by diverting run-off. An inch of water at a time is best. Hold water by contouring.
- **Fertilizer** — Two types are necessary — organic and chemical. Well-rotted manures should be used heavily — 10 to 30 tons per acre — provided it can be soaked up before soil gets dry.

**Get The Most Nutrition From Your Work**

Leafy, green vegetables give a most important contribution to the diet; that is, calcium, iron, protein and the vitamins A, B and C. Greens, carrots and onions rank highest in production per acre of these nutrients. Considering production per acre per hour of labor: Winter squash, greens, turnips (including roots and tops), potatoes, cabbage, tomatoes, peppers, string beans, and peas are valuable.

It is important to use locally adapted varieties. Buy reliable, quality seed. Plant early and only enough to produce what you need — avoid seed waste.

**Why a Garden Plan?**

A plan made to fit the family needs enables:

- Purchase of seed in proper quantity (enough but not too much)
- Succession of vegetables to keep the family supplied all season
- Provision for canning and winter storage

**VEGETABLE PLANTING CHART FOR FAMILY OF FIVE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates of Earliest Planting</th>
<th>Number Days to Grow</th>
<th>Length of Row Feet*</th>
<th>Distance Apart Between Rows Inches</th>
<th>In Inches</th>
<th>Depth Planting Inches</th>
<th>Am't of Seed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Apr. 15-30</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>50-100</td>
<td>12-36&quot;</td>
<td>6&quot;</td>
<td>½&quot;</td>
<td>1 oz.</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 1-10</td>
<td>50-55</td>
<td>25-50</td>
<td>15-36&quot;</td>
<td>6-8&quot;</td>
<td>1&quot;</td>
<td>2 pkg.</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 10-20</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>500-900*</td>
<td>30-42&quot;</td>
<td>12-24&quot;</td>
<td>1-2&quot;</td>
<td>½-2 lbs.</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>July 1-15</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>24-36&quot;</td>
<td>12&quot;</td>
<td>24 plants</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>PERENNIALS</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**To Fit Your Garden to Your Need**

- **Length of row includes succession plantings of radishes, beets, carrots, beans, and sweet corn, which should be made every ten days or two weeks in order to provide a continual supply throughout the season.**
- **These plants are earlier when transplanted from sets or plants raised in greenhouse, hotbed, or cold frame. The latter will serve excellently also to produce seedlings for the fall garden.**
- **Roots placed in holes a few inches below ground level.**
Defend Your Garden

Prevent Plant Diseases

* Rid your garden of old vines and weeds as soon as the crop is harvested
* Rotate garden location each year or rotate vegetables in garden
* Avoid using diseased seed
* Use certified or disease free potato seed—it pays by greatly increasing production

Treat Seed Before Planting

The following vegetables are benefitted greatly by treatment with red or yellow copper oxide (cuprocide) or organic mercury (Semesan) dusts: Beet, carrot, celery, corn, cucumber, egg plant, pea, pepper, pumpkin, spinach, Swiss chard, squash, tomato, watermelon and muskmelon.

Special organic mercury compounds are standard for potatoes and corn.

Diseases known as "yellows" in cabbage, "wilt" in peas, and "mosaic" in beans may be lessened or prevented by using disease-resistant varieties.

Be Prepared

Have spray materials on hand when seed is planted and carry out measures prescribed in Extension Leaflet 49, "Garden Crop Pest Control Chart," obtainable from county extension agents.

Speed by Indoor Starting: Cabbage, kohlrabi, broccoli, lettuce, peppers, egg plant, ground cherries, tomatoes, Chinese cabbage, kale and onions.

Transplanting should be done on a cloudy day or in the evening. Set plants in a hole to protect them from the wind and to get the roots down where moisture is more abundant and easily conserved. Pack moist soil around the roots and cover with dry earth to prevent baking and cracking. Wrap paper about the stem an inch above and below the soil surface to protect the plants from cutworms.

Compiled by
Frank I. Rockwell,
Extension Forester and Horticulturist
Raise Your Own Food

It is not only thrifty to raise a garden—it’s VITALLY ESSENTIAL. Only 33 pounds of commercially prepared foods will be available to each person in 1943—compared with 46 pounds eaten in 1942. You can help produce your own food by raising a garden—rain or no rain.

Your garden should supply enough vegetables for table use all summer and for storing and canning for use in the fall and winter. It should provide the family with adequate nutrition. A garden plan will help you fit your garden to your needs.

Save a Month by Early Preparation

Prepare garden ground the previous year to allow early seeding, thus permitting germination before the soil is dried out by warm weather. Frost-hardy vegetables should be planted as early as it is possible to prepare the seed bed—the earlier the better.

This leaflet, from your County Extension Agent, suggests how you can make your garden a success.