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UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO

# Vegetable Varieties for Idaho Gardens

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Gardening is more fun if you spend a little time choosing varieties. Unfortunately, this is not always possible. Seed catalogs are confusing and sometimes over enthusiastic. The fine seed stores with whom you do business are naturally not able to carry a complete variety list. There are many excellent new "hybrid" varieties, and these are frequently available from the originator, through his catalog. All of this naturally requires shopping around. We have many excellent old varieties, but the new ones add interest and, in many instances, are better than their predecessors.

In making up this list, an effort has been made to appeal more to the "casual" gardener than to the garden hobbyist. The casual gardener looks for something to plant that he feels will be good. The hobbyist goes much farther than this variety list, because he takes the time to try more varieties.

Most of the varieties in this publication have been tested by the University of Idaho in different parts of the state. Others have been selected somewhat on the basis of general popularity.

This list has been assembled with the prospect of getting seed with a minimum of trouble. If new, good varieties are not available where you do your garden shopping, make your wants known and you will probably get the service you want.

Many of the varieties listed here are excellent for both home gardening and commercial production, but we emphasize that this list was not prepared for commercial growers. Inquiries with respect to vegetable varieties for commercial use are welcomed.

## *Proven Varieties for Idaho*

No attempt has been made to segregate these varieties on the basis of use — that is, for canning, storage, freezing and fresh. If these varieties are well grown and properly harvested and prepared, they will serve any purpose. Quality, after all, is the main consideration in selecting vegetables for home use.

Numbers in parenthesis are approximate days from planting to harvest. With crops such as cabbage, peppers and tomatoes produced from plants set in the field, numbers indicate maturity from date of transplanting.

## ASPARAGUS

Mary Washington                      Waltham Washington  
Mary Washington 500

## BEANS

### Bush Green:

Early Gallatin (53)                      Tendercrop (53-60)  
Tendergreen (50-55)                      Sprite (54)  
Canyon (55) — University of Idaho curly top and mosaic resistant variety.  
Idelight (50-55) — University of Idaho curly top and mosaic resistant variety. High quality and heavy yielder.

### Bush Wax:

Kinghorn Wax (55)                      Cherokee (50)  
Moongold (54-55)                      Pencil Pod Black Wax (55)  
Round Pod Kidney Wax or Brittle Wax (55)  
Gold Crop (50) — USDA curly top and mosaic resistant.

### Bush Lima:

Baby Limas — Henderson Bush (65-70); Thorogreen, Clark's Bush, Cangreen (67), all similar to Henderson, but have green seed.  
Large-seeded Limas — Fordhook 242 (75), Burpee's Improved Bush (75).

### Pole Beans, Green:

Blue Lake (60-65)                      Kentucky Wonder (65-70)  
Blue Lake has exceptional quality. Kentucky Wonder is an old favorite with home gardeners with a fine flavor all its own. Both of these varieties need trellising, but are well worth the trouble.



**Pole Lima:**

King of the Garden (85-90)

King of the Garden is also a home garden favorite and is excellent wherever lima beans may be grown. Lima beans do not succeed in most parts of Idaho. The Boise Valley and Lewiston areas are exceptions. Baby limas succeed where large-seeded types fail, but the area in which they can be produced is limited.

**Dry Beans:**

Red Mexican, UI-36                      Pinto, UI-111  
Great Northern, UI-61

**BEETS**

Early Wonder (50-55)                      Crosby's Egyptian (55)  
Detroit Dark Red (50)

**BROCCOLI**

DeCicco (60-65)                      Spartan Early (55-60)  
Waltham 11 (65-70)                      Green Mountain (60)

Broccoli is easily grown during the cooler parts of the season. Plants set in the field in late June or early July or later will produce from September until hard frost. Direct seeding may be practiced in areas of long season for a fall crop, if done by June 15 to 20.

**BRUSSELS SPROUTS**

Long Island Improved (90)                      Catskill (90-95)  
Jade Cross (80)

Brussels sprouts are grown in much the same manner as broccoli but its requirements are more exacting. Brussels sprouts need a long period of cool, humid conditions, and should be left outside as long as possible.

**CABBAGE****Early:**

Golden Acre (60-65)  
Baby Head (62)  
Early Jersey Wakefield (62)  
Copenhagen Market (70)  
Early Round Red (64)

**Late:**

Marion Market (75-80)  
Danish Ballhead (100)  
Drumhead Savoy (95)

There are many excellent cabbage varieties. Early ones are planted as early in the spring as possible. Mid-season and late are used as fall crops. They are transplanted to the field from June 15 to 30 and may be direct-seeded about June 1 to 15 in most areas.

**CARROTS**

Long Imperator (77) — 8 to 9 inches long, and slender  
Gold Pac — Long and slender  
Nantes (65-70) — top quality  
Red Core Chantenay (70-75) — an old standard

**CAULIFLOWER**

Early Snowball (60)                      Snowball Y (68)  
Snowball X (64)                      Royal Purple (95)  
Snowcap (56)                      Early Purple Head (85)

Best grown during cool weather in early spring or fall. (See notes for late cabbage.)

**CELERY****Summer:**

Golden Self-Blanching (110-115)  
Golden Plume (110-115)

**Fall:**

Utah 52-70 (125)  
Giant Pascal (135)

Summer celery is transplanted into the garden as soon as

possible after the average date of the last frost. Too early transplanting leads to production of bolters. Fall celery may be transplanted from May to June in most areas and requires a long season, high fertility and an abundance of water.

**CHARD**

Fordhook Giant (60)                      Lucullus (62)

**CHINESE CABBAGE**

Chihili (70-75)                      Michihili (75-80)

**CUCUMBERS****Pickling:**

Wisconsin SMR 18 (53)  
Wisconsin SMR (58)  
Chicago Pickling (58)  
Ohio MR 17 (55) — mosaic resistant

**Slicing:**

Ashley (65)  
Marketer (66)  
Colorado A and C (68)

The slicing cucumbers are satisfactory for preserving as well as for fresh use in the home. One slicing variety should suffice. Pickling types are short, blocky and heavy producers. Pickling varieties produce more but smaller cucumbers and are usually satisfactory for slicing.

Gynocious (all female flowers) hybrids are available.

**EGGPLANT**

Early Beauty (62)                      Black Beauty (80-95)  
Black Magic (72)

Eggplant is a long season crop requiring high temperatures and is recommended only in warmer parts of Idaho.

**ENDIVE**

Broadleaved Batavian (90-95)                      Ruffec (76)  
Pancalier (95)

Most people prefer the curled types (Ruffec and Pancalier).

**HORSE RADISH**

Maliner Kren (plant roots)

**KALE**

Vates (Dwarf Blue Curled) (55)                      Dwarf Curled Scotch (55-60)

Sow kale directly in the field from July 15 to 30 in irrigated areas. Makes an excellent fall crop and is useful for freezing. May also be planted in early spring, but does not tolerate heat. For best flavor, use kale after it has been frosted.

**KOHLRABI**

White Vienna (55)                      Purple Vienna (55)

Use when "bulbs" are about 2 inches in diameter.

**LETTUCE****Butterhead:**

White Boston (68)  
Buttercrunch (75)  
Summer Bibb (62)

**Leaf:**

Grand Rapids (40-45)  
Black Seeded Simpson (45)  
Salad Bowl (50-55)  
Prize Head (45)  
Ruby (45)

**Crisp Head:**

Great Lakes (80-85)

**MUSKMELON**

Minnesota Midget (75-80)                      Edisto (88)  
Delicious (85)                      Yakima Sweet (95-100)  
Burpee Hybrid (85)                      Hale's Best No. 36 (85-90)  
Harper Hybrid (86)                      Gold Cup No. 55 (82)

Try Minnesota Midget in cooler parts of the state. This



variety did well in Aberdeen trials with good quality. Muskmelons, generally, should be grown only in warmest parts of Idaho. For the finest in eating, try Gold Rind Honeydew if you live in one of the warmer areas.

## ONIONS

### From Seed:

Yellow Sweet Spanish (140-145)  
 Ebenezer (100)      White Sweet Spanish (130-140)  
 White Portugal (100)      Brigham Yellow Globe (110)

### Plants and Sets:

Any variety of onion can be grown from plants, but there is usually no choice for home gardeners who buy plants. Ebenezer and Yellow Globe are commonly used for sets.

### Hybrid Onions:

Ring King (124-149) — shows 85 to 95% perfect circles.  
 El Capitan (126-148) — Sweetest and mildest Sweet Spanish variety or hybrid known.

These are University of Idaho introductions for southwestern Idaho. They are recognized as superior in many respects to open-pollinated sorts. Seed is not always available to home gardeners.

## PARSLEY

### Curled-leaf varieties:

Moss curled (70-75)  
 Paramount (85)

### Plain-leaf varieties:

Perfection  
 Plain (72)  
 Dark green Italian

### Turnip-rooted:

Hamburg (90)

## PARSNIPS

Hollow Crown (110-115)      Model (90-95)  
 All America (105)

## PEAS

Thomas Laxton (55-60)      Freezonian (62)  
 Little Marvel (64)      Laxton Progress (60-65)  
 Alderman (74) — a tall-growing variety

There are many good pea varieties. These will cover needs of the home gardener for fresh, canned or frozen products. Thomas Laxton probably has the highest quality.

### Edible Pod Peas:

Dwarf Gray Sugar (60-65)      Melting Sugar (74)

## PEPPERS

### Sweet Green or Bell:

Early California Wonder (70)  
 Yolo Wonder (75)  
 Keystone Giant (75-80)  
 Idabelle (75 — an Idaho introduction)

### Yellow:

Yellow Sweet Long (65)

### Pimiento:

Early Pimiento  
 Sunnybrook (73)

### Hot:

Red — Long Red Cayenne (65)  
 Large Red Cherry (80)  
 Yellow — Hungarian Yellow Wax (65)

We know of no variety of peppers resistant to the pepper wilt found in Idaho gardens.

## POTATOES

Bliss Triumph (90-95)      Katahdin (100-105)  
 Russet Burbank (110-120)      — northern Idaho  
 Norgold      Chippewa (100-105)  
 Be sure to use certified potato seed.      — northern Idaho

## PUMPKINS

Jack-O-Lantern (110) — for Jack-O-Lanterns  
 New England Pie (115-120) — small for eating  
 Connecticut Field (115) — a large pumpkin

## RADISH

Scarlet Globe (22)      White Icicle (27)  
 Cherry Belle (22) — a beautiful radish  
 Round Black Spanish — black skin and white flesh. Sow in July and August for winter use.

## RHUBARB

Crimson      German Wine  
 Canada Red      Victoria  
 McDonald      Red Valentine

Use only the leafstalk as food. The leaves are poisonous.

## RUTABAGA

American Purple Top (85-90) — has yellow flesh  
 McComber (92) — has white flesh

## SPINACH

### Spring Planting:

America (47)  
 Long Standing Bloomsdale (40-45)  
 Nobel (40-45)  
 Blight Resistant Savoy (40-45)

### Fall Planting:

Viroflay (40-45)  
 Hollandia (45-50)

Spinach may be fall-seeded successfully in many parts of Idaho. Sow seed from September 15 to 30. New Zealand spinach (70) thrives in hot weather. It is not a true spinach but is excellent for cooked summer greens.

## SQUASH

### Summer:

Early Prolific (50-55)  
 White Bush Scallop (50-55)  
 Cocozelle (50-60)  
 Zucchini (60-65)  
 Straightneck (50-53)  
 Early Summer Crookneck (53)

### Des Moines (85-90)

Acorn (85-90)  
 Butternut (90-95)  
 Baby Butternut (95)  
 Buttercup (95-100)  
 Banana (105-110)  
 Golden Delicious (105)  
 Hubbard (110)

### Winter:

Table Queen (85-90)      Golden Hubbard (100)  
 Turks Turban (100) — an ornamental squash, brilliant orange red.  
 Gold Nugget (85) — orange fruits 4 inches in diameter.

Table Queen may be used as a summer squash if used before it begins to harden. If you grow only one squash in a small garden, Buttercup is it.

## SWEET CORN

### Early (60-70):

Miniature (66)  
 North Star (67)  
 Tokay Sugar  
 Improved Seneca (60)  
 Spring Gold (67)

### Late Season (80+ to 90+):

Jubilee  
 Golden Cross Bantam  
 Dominator  
 Midway  
 Seneca Chief  
 Lochief  
 Silver Queen (105)

### Midseason (70-80):

Barbecue  
 Carmelcross  
 Golden Earlipack

Miniature germinates in relatively cold soils so plant early. Tokay Sugar is high in sugar and has a tender skin. Quality of sweet corn tends to improve with the later varieties. Plant at one time seed of varieties with different dates of maturity for a continuity of harvest.



## SWEET POTATO

### Dry type:

Yellow Jersey (120-130) — light yellow color

### Moist type:

Nancy Hall (110-120) Copperskinned Goldrush (110-120)  
Kandee (110-120) Centennial (110-120)

Dry-fleshed sweet potatoes are referred to as "sweet potatoes" while the moist types — usually reddish or orange-reddish in color — are called "yams." They are all sweet potatoes. This crop does well in the warmer Lewiston area, the Boise Valley, Emmett and Hagerman Valley. High-quality potatoes are best grown in sandy soil.

## TOMATOES

Fireball (60)*	Big Boy (80)**
Payette (60)*	Golden Boy** — yellow
Early Chatham (60-65)*	Golden Jubilee (70-75)
Earliana (60-65)**	Sunray (80)
Jumbo Hybrid (65-70) ·	Pinkshipper — pink
Moreton Hybrid (70)**	Large German Cherry**
Burpee Hybrid (70)**	Red Top (75) — a paste tomato
Glamour (70-75)**	Tiny Tim (70) — miniature, grows well
Sioux (70-75)**	in pots

There are many good varieties of tomatoes. If you live in a short-season area where summers are cool, get the earliest varieties you can find. Greenhouse tomatoes include Manapal and Michigan State Forcing. Payette, a University of Idaho introduction, is a dwarf variety resistant to curly top disease.

\* Indicates a determinate habit of growth or bush

\*\* Indeterminate or vining habit of growth

## TURNIP

Purple Top White Globe (55)  
Shogoin — for greens and all-white roots

## WATERMELON

New Hampshire Midget (70) — the size of a cantaloupe  
Sugar Baby (80) — small, round fruit  
Kleckley's Sweet (85-90)      Crimson Sweet (80-90)  
Blue Ribbon Klondike (85-90)      Petite Sweet (75)

Watermelons succeed only in the warmest areas of the state. Try Sugar Baby if you are in a cooler area; quality won't be the best. Crimson Sweet is the pick of the others. If you have watermelon wilt in your soil, use Blue Ribbon Klondike. A preserving type of watermelon is called "citron"; it is not edible when raw.

## OTHER UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO INTRODUCTIONS

Among other vegetable varieties introduced by the University of Idaho are the following, for which seed may not be readily available. If you can't locate seed, contact your county agricultural extension agent.

**BEANS:** Custer (58) — green seed coat; Alturas (50-55) — white seed coat.

**BEETS:** Parma Globe (60); Parma Red Globe (55). Both are high yielding and resistant to curly top.

**CHARD:** Parma Giant (60) — early maturing, high yielding and resistant to curly top.

**TOMATOES:** Owyhee (70) — a curly top-resistant variety.

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