

When to Plant Vegetables - Clemson Univ, SC

Your Spring Planting Strategy

Cole crops like **broccoli, cauliflower, and cabbage** can be direct seeded into your garden around February 21, assuming the ground can be worked, but it's better to start them indoors around January 24 and then transplant them into the garden around March 14. Do the same with **lettuce and spinach**.

Plant **onion starts and potatoes** around February 3. Sow the seeds of **peas** (sugar snap and english) at the same time. If the ground is still frozen, then plant these as soon as the ground thaws.

Do you want to grow **tomatoes, peppers, and eggplants**? Start these indoors around January 24. Then, around March 30 you should start watching the weather forecast and, as soon as no frost is forecast, go ahead and transplant those into the ground.

Now, for all the summer vegetables like **beans, cowpeas, corn, squashes, pumpkins, cucumbers, watermelons, gourds and sunflowers**, you should plant those seeds directly into the ground around April 3, or if your soil is still very cold, once the soil is near 60° F in temperature.

Okay, now here are the cold, hard numbers, along with specific plants:

Zone 8: First Freeze Free Date ... March 15

Crop	Sow seeds indoors	Transplant seedlings into the garden	Direct sow seeds
Asparagus	n/a	Feb 18 - Mar 4	n/a
Beans	n/a	n/a	Apr 3 - May 1
Beets	n/a	n/a	Feb 7 - Feb 21
Broccoli	Jan 24 - Feb 7	Mar 6 - Mar 20	n/a
Brussel Sprouts	Jan 24 - Feb 7	Mar 6 - Mar 20	n/a
Cabbage	Jan 24 - Feb 7	Mar 6 - Mar 20	n/a
Cantaloupe	n/a	n/a	Mar 20 - Apr 3
Carrots	n/a	n/a	Feb 21 - Mar 20
Cauliflower	Jan 24 - Feb 7	Mar 6 - Mar 20	n/a
Chard	n/a	n/a	Feb 21 - Mar 6
Collards	Jan 24 - Feb 7	Mar 6 - Mar 20	n/a
Corn	n/a	n/a	Apr 3 - Apr 17
Cucumbers	n/a	n/a	Apr 3 - Apr 17
Eggplants	Jan 24 - Feb 7	Apr 3 - Apr 17	n/a
Gourds, Squash and Pumpkins	n/a	n/a	Apr 3 - Apr 17
Kale	Jan 24 - Feb 7	Mar 6 - Mar 20	n/a
Kohlrabi	Jan 24 - Feb 7	Mar 6 - Mar 20	n/a
Lettuce	Jan 24 - Feb 7	Feb 21 - Mar 20	Feb 21 - Mar 20
Mustard	Jan 24 - Feb 7	Mar 6 - Mar 20	n/a
Okra	n/a	n/a	Apr 3 - Apr 17
Onions	Jan 17 - Jan 24	Feb 3 - Mar 4	n/a
Peas (English)	n/a	n/a	Feb 3 - Mar 4
Peas (Southern)	n/a	n/a	Apr 3 - May 1
Peas (Sugar Snap)	n/a	n/a	Feb 3 - Mar 4
Peppers	Jan 24 - Feb 7	Apr 3 - Apr 17	n/a
Potatoes	n/a	n/a	Feb 3 - Mar 4
Radishes	n/a	n/a	Feb 18 - Apr 17
Spinach	Jan 24 - Feb 7	Mar 6 - Mar 20	Feb 18 - Mar 20
Sweet Potatoes	n/a	Apr 3 - Apr 24	n/a
Tomatoes	Jan 24 - Feb 7	Apr 3 - Apr 17	n/a
Watermelon	n/a	n/a	Apr 3 - Apr 17

Zone 8 Vegetable Planting Freeze Dates

Zone	First Freeze Free Date	Last Freeze Free Date
7	April 15	October 30
8	March 15	November 15
9	February 1	November 30

