

What To Plant/Do In The Edible Garden (Santa Clara County)

(an ever-expanding list)

January

Plants/roots/bulbs to plant directly: asparagus bare-roots, artichoke bare-roots, cane berries, grape vines, fruit trees, Jerusalem artichokes, rhubarb bare-roots, strawberry bare-roots, blueberries, ***seedlings*** for Swiss chard, rutabagas, lettuce and spinach

Seeds to sow in the garden: radishes, carrots, salsify, Swiss chard, fava beans and other cover crops

Seeds to start in protected flats: chives, onions, scallions, arugula, bok choi, broccoli, brussel sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower, Swiss chard, collards, mache (a salad green), endive, escarole, kale, kohlrabi, leeks, lettuce, mustard greens

Fruit Tree Care: prune fruit trees, apply dormant oil spray after pruning (for control of scale, mealy bugs, whiteflies and mites), apply organic leaf curl spray (use fixed copper spray), apply shothole fungus spray (use fixed copper spray).

February

Plants/roots/bulbs to plant directly: garlic sets, onion sets, potatoes, shallot sets, asparagus bare-roots, artichoke bare-roots, cane berries, grape vines, fruit trees, Jerusalem artichokes, rhubarb bare-roots, strawberry bare-roots, blueberries, ***seedlings*** for arugula, bok choi, broccoli, brussel sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower, Swiss chard, collards, mache (a salad green) endive, escarole, kale, kohlrabi, rutabagas, lettuce, spinach, mustard greens

Seeds to sow in the garden: arugula, beets, broccoli, celery, radishes, carrots, peas (bush and pole), salsify, scallions, spinach, Swiss chard

Seeds to start in protected flats: arugula, bok choi, broccoli, brussel sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower, celery, Swiss chard, chives, collards, mache (a salad green), endive, escarole, kale, kohlrabi, leeks, lettuce, mustard greens, lovage, onions, rutabagas, scallions, spinach

Fruit Tree Care: if you didn't in January, prune fruit trees and apply dormant oil spray after pruning and apply leaf curl spray (use fixed copper spray), also, apply fireblight spray on apples, pears and loquats (use fixed copper spray during bloom), apply brown rot spray on stone fruits (use fixed copper spray during bloom). Do not use sulfur sprays on apricots.

Other Garden Chores: Use beer traps, Sluggo or hand-pick at night to combat the increasing slug/snail population.

March

Plants/roots/bulbs to plant directly: garlic sets, onion sets, potatoes, shallot sets, artichoke bare-roots, *seedlings* for arugula, bok choy, broccoli, brussel sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower, celery, Swiss chard, chives, collards, mache (a salad green) endive, escarole, leeks, onions, kale, kohlrabi, rutabagas, lettuce, spinach, scallions, and all perennial herbs (mint, oregano, parsley, rosemary, sage, thyme).

Seeds to sow in the garden: beets, radishes, carrots, Swiss chard, salsify, spinach, turnips

Seeds to start in protected flats: broccoli, eggplant, lettuce, New Zealand spinach, okra, parsley, peppers (sweet and hot), rutabagas, scallions, Swiss chard, tomatoes

Fruit Tree Care: fertilize fruit trees and vines (if needed) and if you didn't in February, apply fireblight spray on apples, pears and loquats (use fixed copper spray during bloom), apply brown rot spray on stone fruits (use fixed copper spray during bloom). Do not use sulfur sprays on apricots.

Other Garden Chores: Cut back old growth of established perennial herbs (oregano, mint, sage, thyme, etc.) - remove dead stems, then fertilize with a fish-emulsion mixture to stimulate growth. Winter vegetables that are "finished" should be harvested fully, pulled up and composted. Cut down cover crops and dig them into the soil. As soon as the soil is dry enough, prepare your garden beds for summer vegetables.

April

Plants/roots/bulbs to plant directly: artichoke bare-roots, *seedlings* for leeks, lettuce, New Zealand spinach, onions, onions, rutabagas, scallions, Swiss chard, tomatoes (end of month)

Seeds to sow in the garden: beets, radishes, carrots, Swiss chard, peanuts, dill, New Zealand spinach, turnips

Seeds to start in protected flats: beans (bush and pole), eggplant, corn, basil, Swiss chard, cucumbers, melons, pumpkins and all other squash, lettuce, New Zealand spinach, okra, parsley, peppers (sweet and hot), rutabagas, tomatoes, sunflowers, soybeans

Fruit Tree Care: if you didn't in March, fertilize fruit trees and vines (if needed), apply fireblight spray on apples, pears and loquats (use fixed copper spray during bloom), apply brown rot spray on stone fruits (use fixed copper spray during bloom). Do not use sulfur sprays on apricots. Also, for powdery mildew on grapes, apply wettable sulfur, dusting sulfur or 2% soap solution at 3 week intervals starting when new shoots are 6" in length and continuing until fruit softening. Also thin grape foliage to increase air circulation. If you've had wormy apples or pears in the past (codling moth), brown bag fruit clusters after bloom to prevent moths from laying eggs.

Other Garden Chores: Winter vegetables that are "finished" should be harvested fully, pulled up and composted. Cut down cover crops and dig them into the soil. As soon as the soil is dry enough, prepare your garden beds for summer vegetables, and plant.

May

Seedlings to plant directly: beans (bush and pole), basil, chives, cilantro, Swiss chard, corn, cucumbers, eggplant, lettuce, melons, New Zealand spinach, okra, parsley, peppers (sweet and hot), pumpkins and all other squash, rutabagas, tomatoes, sunflowers, soybeans

Seeds to sow in the garden: beans (bush and pole), beets, radishes, carrots, corn, turnips, soybeans, Swiss chard, sunflowers, peanuts

Seeds to start in protected flats: basil, Swiss chard, collards, cucumbers, lettuce, New Zealand spinach, mustard greens, pumpkins and all other squash, rutabagas, tomatoes

Fruit Tree Care: Continue codling moth treatment on apple/pear trees and powdery mildew treatments on grapes.

Other Garden Chores: Combat aphids with a strong spray of water from the hose or spray them with an insecticidal soap. Set out bait or hand pick earwigs, snails, and slugs. For severe infestations of spittle bugs, spray them off with a strong stream of water.

June

Seedlings to plant directly: Beans (bush and pole), basil and all other herbs, Swiss chard, corn, cucumbers, collards, eggplant, lettuce, melons, New Zealand spinach, okra, peppers (sweet and hot), pumpkins and all other squash, rutabagas, tomatoes, sunflowers, soybeans

Seeds to sow in the garden: Beans (bush and pole), beets, Swiss chard, collards, basil and all other herbs, mustard greens, New Zealand spinach, salsify, radishes, carrots, corn, turnips, soybeans, sunflowers

Seeds to start in protected flats: Basil and all other herbs, Swiss chard, collards, cucumbers, lettuce, rutabagas

Fruit Tree Care: continue codling moth treatment on apple/pear trees and powdery mildew treatments on grapes, also, do a follow-up brown rot spray 2-3 weeks before harvest of stone fruits (use fixed copper spray)

July

Seedlings to plant directly: beans (bush and pole), basil and all other herbs, Swiss chard, corn, collards, lettuce, rutabagas, winter squash

Seeds to sow in the garden: beans (bush), beets, New Zealand spinach, salsify, Swiss chard, radishes, carrots, corn, turnips

Seeds to start in protected flats: Swiss chard, broccoli, collards, kale, kohlrabi, lettuce, New Zealand spinach, mustard, spinach

Fruit Tree/Vine Care: continue codling moth treatment on apple/pear trees and powdery mildew treatments on grapes, also, if you haven't already, do a follow-up brown rot spray 2-3 weeks before harvest of stone fruits (use fixed copper spray). After harvesting apricots, prune larger limbs now (smaller limbs can wait until January). Cut back June-bearing cane berries to the ground; tie up new ones as they develop. Deep water fruit trees that have been established 3-5 years with soaker hoses, once every 2 weeks.

August

Plants/roots/bulbs to plant directly: garlic sets, onion sets, *seedlings* for Swiss chard, collards, kale, kohlrabi, lettuce, New Zealand spinach, mustard, spinach

Seeds to sow in the garden: beets, radishes, carrots, corn (early varieties only), turnips, peas (bush and pole), parsnips, Swiss chard

Seeds to start in protected flats: bok choi, broccoli, brussel sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower, celery, Swiss chard, collards, kale, kohlrabi, leeks, lettuce, mustard, onions, rutabagas, spinach, all perennial herbs

Fruit Tree Care: continue codling moth treatment on apple/pear trees and powdery mildew treatments on grapes, also, if you haven't already, do a follow-up brown rot spray 2-3 weeks before harvest of stone fruits (use fixed copper spray). On apricot trees, prune larger limbs now (if you didn't in July). Fertilize fruit trees if needed, and continue deep watering the established ones every 2 weeks.

September

Plants/roots/bulbs to plant directly: garlic sets, onion sets, asparagus bare-roots, *seedlings* for bok choi, broccoli, brussel sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower, celery, Swiss chard, collards, kale, kohlrabi, leeks, lettuce, mustard, onions, rutabagas, spinach

Seeds to sow in the garden: beets, radishes, carrots, spinach, salsify, turnips, peas (bush and pole), parsnips, Swiss chard, fava beans and other cover crops

Seeds to start in protected flats: bok choi, broccoli, brussel sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower, Swiss chard, collards, kale, kohlrabi, leeks, lettuce, mustard, onions, rutabagas, spinach

Other Garden Chores: If production on your tomato plants has decreased significantly, pull out the vines, and send them to the city to compost (do not compost them yourself, unless your compost is very hot). Ripen the remaining tomatoes inside, placing them in a single layer in a box in a cool area, checking every few days. Other summer vegetables

that are "finished" should also be disposed of and composted. Prepare your garden beds for winter vegetables, and plant.

October

Plants/roots/bulbs to plant directly: garlic sets, onion sets, asparagus bare-roots, *seedlings* for bok choy, broccoli, brussel sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower, Swiss chard, collards, kale, kohlrabi, leeks, lettuce, mustard, onions, rutabagas, spinach

Seeds to sow in the garden: beets, radishes, carrots, spinach, salsify, turnips, peas (bush and pole), parsnips, Swiss chard, fava beans and other cover crops

Seeds to start in protected flats: Swiss chard, collards, kale, lettuce, mustard, rutabagas, spinach

Other Garden Chores: Pull up and dispose of tomato vines (see September) if this chore has not been completed. Other summer vegetables that are "finished" should also be disposed of and composted. Prepare your garden beds for winter vegetables, and plant.

November

Plants/roots/bulbs to plant directly: garlic sets, onion sets, asparagus bare-roots, blueberry bushes *seedlings* for bok choy, broccoli, brussel sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower, Swiss chard, celery, collards, kale, kohlrabi, leeks, lettuce, mustard, onions, rutabagas, spinach

Seeds to sow in the garden: Swiss chard, radishes, carrots, turnips, parsnips, fava beans and other cover crops

Seeds to start in protected flats: Swiss chard, lettuce, rutabagas, spinach

Other Garden Chores:

December

Plants/roots/bulbs to plant directly: garlic sets, onion sets, artichoke bare-roots, asparagus bare-roots, blueberry bushes, *seedlings* for Swiss chard, lettuce, rutabagas, spinach

Seeds to sow in the garden: Swiss chard, fava beans and other cover crops

Seeds to start in protected flats: Swiss chard, lettuce, rutabagas, spinach

Fruit Tree Care: apply stone-fruit leaf curl spray (use fixed copper spray) to tree limbs and to ground, remove old "mummy" fruits, rake up any fallen leaves

Last Updated: 6/7/05