

The Southern California Cheat Sheet:

A Month by Month List of What To Plant and When

SEPTEMBER

Plant in the ground: nothing, until late in the month, start sowing turnips, parsnips, radishes, beets and carrots - keep seeds moist! Peas, lentils and garbanzo beans can be sown...

Plant in containers: Cabbage, broccoli, kale, chard, favas, cauliflower, Brussels sprouts,

Otherwise: Get your garlic bulbs, shallot bulbs and onion sets

OCTOBER

Plant in the ground: by now you can begin to set out some of your cabbage, broccoli, kale, cauliflower, chard and so on. Continue with seeds as above. Potatoes can usually be found about now as well as sets or seed bulbs of onions, garlic and shallots and they all should be planted from now until late November.

Plant in containers: More *Cruciferae* and favas, celery and celeriac,

NOVEMBER

Plant in the ground: More of September's plants can be sown - you still have time for all of them except onions, this will be the last month to plant peas, lentils, garbanzos, shallots, garlic and fava beans. Their growing season is too long to get the harvest you would want.

Plant in containers: cabbages, broccoli and cauliflower

DECEMBER

Plant in the ground: Too little light make it difficult to find garden time - but if you have some things left over from November, try to get that done.

Plant in containers: The same story, if you have time, do more of all that's listed from November.

JANUARY

Plant in the ground: lettuce, carrots, beets, parsnips, potatoes, celeriac, radishes, spinach,

Plant in containers: lettuce, cabbage, broccoli, kale, chard, (these last two can be started now, but they would have been better started earlier - their production will be reduced by the coming warmer weather), peas

Otherwise: You are looking in seed catalogs and reading books to figure out which tomatoes, peppers, beans and other summer crops you will be planting.

FEBRUARY

Plant in the ground: lettuce (and other salad greens), carrots, beets parsnips, radishes, spinach, purple beans

Plant in containers: early tomatoes, basil, cucumbers, summer squash

MARCH

Plant in the ground: purple beans, lettuce, radishes, purple beans, beets, radishes, spinach, set out plants of basil, early tomatoes, later in the month, sow early sweet corn,

Plant in containers: tomatoes, basil, peppers, eggplant, cucumbers, melons, all squash,

APRIL

Plant in the ground: beans of all colors, lettuce, radishes, beets, spinach, set out plants of tomatoes, peppers, eggplants, basil, you can start planting all corn now

Plant in containers: tomatoes, basil, peppers, eggplant, cucumbers, melons & squash, okra,

MAY

Plant in the ground: all basil, eggplant, all melons and all squash (including cucumbers, set out plants of same and all tomatoes, eggplants and peppers) green and yellow beans and all the dried beans; corn too, if you have room

Plant in containers: As in April, but it's getting late - peppers, eggplants and basil are still OK to start, but it's getting late.

JUNE

Plant in the ground: all the above, but it's getting late... you can still get a crop, but it will be cut shorter by any early cool weather; the last of the corn can go in early in the month

Plant in containers: start pumpkin seeds

There are two big shifts in Southern Californian gardening:

At the end of September, start of October it's all about the winter crops.

At the end of February, start of March, the focus all shifts to summer and the heat lover crops

Adapted from the Farmer's Almanac

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