

Making the Most of Your Flower and Vegetable Garden

Garden Calendar courtesy of Steve Mayer, horticulture educator with Purdue Extension-Marion County www.IndyHorticulture.org

April

- Set out cabbage and broccoli transplants in early April and transplant year old asparagus crowns from mid-April to mid-May
- Remove flowers on newly planted strawberries. Flower removal in the first year will promote early, vigorous plant growth and early formation of runner plants to increase production
- Plant early-season potato cultivars as soon as the soil is dry enough to work. Use two-ounce sections of certified, disease-free seed potatoes
- Asparagus spears begin to emerge when soil temperatures reach 50 degrees (growth rate depends on air temperature). Harvest by snapping while asparagus tips are still tight.

May

- For a continuous supply of snap beans, make a planting every two weeks to four weeks until August 1
- The All-America Selections have named 3 award-winning vegetables for 2009:
 - Gretel, a white eggplant
 - Honey Bear, a green acorn squash
 - Lambkin, a gourmet Christmas-type melon
- Plant tomatoes when danger of frost is past (about May 10). You can plant earlier if you cover the plants when frosts are forecast
- Peppers do not grow well in cold, wet soil so plant them a week or two after tomatoes

June

- For squash vine borer problems, use 2 insecticide sprays about a week apart, beginning when vines start to run
- It is not too late to plant pumpkins in mid-June. Many pumpkins take 90-120 days to mature.
- To avoid an alternate-bearing cycle (every other year) on fruit trees, thin a heavy fruit set after the natural June drop.



Indiana Fruits and Vegetable Harvest Calendar

Fruits & Vegetables	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.
Apples								
Asparagus								
Beets								
Blackberries								
Blueberries								
Broccoli								
Brussel Sprouts								
Cabbage								
Cantaloupe								
Carrots								
Cauliflower								
Cherries								
Collards								
Eggplant								
Grapes								
Green Peas								
Hot Peppers								
Lettuce								
Lima Beans								
Mushrooms								
Onions (dry)								
Peaches								
Plums								
Potatoes								
Pumpkins								
Radishes								
Raspberries								
Snap Beans								
Spinach								
Strawberries								
Summer Squash								
Sweet Corn								
Sweet Peppers								
Tomatoes								
Turnips & Turnip Greens								
Watermelon								
Winter Squash								

Special Note on Availability: Local weather may affect harvest dates from one year to the next. Many fruits and vegetables are available beyond the indicated harvest periods through modern storage techniques and facilities.

Prepared by:



Indiana State Department of Agriculture
 101 West Ohio Street, Suite 1200
 Indianapolis, IN 46204
 Phone: 317.232.8770
 Website: www.in.gov/isda



Purdue University
 Dept. of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture
 625 Agriculture Mall Dr.
 West Lafayette, IN 47907-2010
 Phone: 765.494.1300
 Website: www.hort.purdue.edu/hort/