

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

- The International Herb Association has designated horseradish as the 2011 Herb of the Year. Horseradish can be grown as an annual or perennial. The harvested roots become very pungent when processed and are used as an ingredient in meat dishes and for condiments.
- 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.
- 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.
- Set out cabbage and broccoli transplants in early April and transplant year old asparagus crowns from mid-April to mid-May

May

- The All-America Selections has released the names of four new award-winning vegetables for 2011. They are two cherry tomatoes, Lizzano and Terenzo; Hijinks, a 6 to 7 pound pumpkins; and Orange Blaze sweet pepper.
- For a continuous supply of snap beans, make a planting every two weeks to four weeks until August 1
- 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

- Check squash and pumpkin plants regularly for clusters of tiny, brown squash bug eggs. If you find one or more egg masses per plant, treat after the eggs hatch with an insecticide.
- To avoid an alternate-bearing cycle (every other year) on fruit trees, thin a heavy fruit set after the natural June drop.
- If rhubarb plants are four or more years old, you can harvest up to eight to 10 weeks if weak, spindly leaf stalks do not appear. Then stop harvesting and fertilize.
- It is not too late to plant pumpkins in mid-June. Many pumpkins take 90 to 120 days to mature.



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:



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