

Welcome!

KEEPING YOUR VEGETABLE GARDEN GROWING INTO FALL

with Alan Wagner



We will begin at 10 am.

Please take a minute to settle in and be sure to mute.

Have Chat open and ready, we will use it for Q&A.

Keep Your Vegetable Garden Growing into Fall

Alan Wagner, Extension Master Gardener



**"A garden is not made by singing
'Oh, how beautiful!'" and sitting in
the shade."** – Rudyard Kipling

Extension Master Gardener Volunteers of Buncombe County

Course Objectives

- Where to plant?
- How to extend the season?
- When to plant?
- What to plant?
- What about cover crops?

Types of Gardens

- Large row crops
- Small beds
- Containers



Rows vs. Beds



Soil Testing



Turn-around time
in August is
one week

Archeology and Gardening



Thermal Collectors

- Bricks
- Concrete blocks
- Rocks or rock walls
- Jugs of water or small ponds



Extending the Season

Floating Row Covers

- Trap heat, allow in sun and water
- Minimum survival 0-20°F



Extending the Season

Low Tunnels / Hoop Tents

- Row cover material / plastic hoops
- Attention to venting



Extending the Season

High-Tunnel Hoop House

- PVC or metal bows
- 2 layers of 6-mil greenhouse-grade polyethylene
- Ventilated by rolling up sides



Answer in
Chat Box



**What is the biggest issue with
using floating row covers and
hoops?**



Cold Frames



Raised Bed Cold Frames



Straw Bale Cold Frame at The Learning Garden



Straw Bale Cold Frame at The Learning Garden



*Use Chat Box to
ask a question.*



When to Plant

- Right time
- Soil temperature
- Days to maturity
- Count days to maturity and count backwards from first average frost

Fall first frost
Oct. 25



NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
Garden Planting Calendar for Annual Vegetables, Fruits, and Herbs in North Carolina

Fruit, Herb, or Vegetable	Days to Harvest from seed unless otherwise noted	Distance Between Plants	Month											
			Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Beans, snap/flat	50 - 75	2 in												
Beans, snap/green	65 - 75	6 in												
Beets	55 - 60	2 in												
Broccoli	T = 70 - 80	18 in												
Brussels sprouts	T = 60 - 50 S = 90 - 100*	14 - 18 in												
Cabbage	T = 63 - 75 S = 90 - 100*	12 in												
Cabbage, Chinese	T = 65 - 95 S = 75 - 85	12 in												
Carrots	75 - 80	2 in												

* Turquoise = Eastern, Orange = Piedmont, Purple = Western
B = Bulbs, C = Crops, S = Seeds, T = Transplants, Tu = Tubers
*Start seeds indoors for later transplant in the garden. Do not plant seeds directly in the garden.

Planting Seeds

- Use for vegetables with fast germination
- Planting depth
 - Generally 3 X diameter of seed
 - Small seeds - scatter and cover lightly
- Keep moist



Planting Transplants

- Sense of urgency
- Right spacing
- Right depth
- Water in with starter



Fall Garden Vegetables

Cabbage	Turnips
Broccoli	Radishes
Cauliflower	Lettuce
Kale	Onion
Collards	Peas
Swiss Chard	Garlic
Beets	Spinach



Greens

- Kale
- Spinach
- Collards*
- Chard
- Cabbage

*Most cold hardy



Salad Greens – Semi-Hardy

- Grow from seed July - Sept
- Head lettuce
 - Romaine
 - Butterhead
- Loose Leaf lettuce
- Arugula
- Mesclun mix



Kale

- Curly leaf, flat leaf
- Winter hardy
- Seed August-September



Broccoli

- Spring or fall
- Central head & side shoots
- Hardy
- Transplants July-August



Cauliflower

- “The educated cabbage”
- Self-blanching
- Transplants July-August



Root Vegetables – Beets

- Use for greens or roots
- Very cold hardy
- Seed July-August
- Thin to 2-4” apart



Root Vegetables – Turnips

- Greens or roots
- Seed July-September
- Thin to 3-6” for mature plants



Root Vegetables – Carrots

- Choose short varieties
- Thin to 1-3" apart
- Seed July-September



Swiss Chard

- More heat tolerant
- Less cold hardy
- Seed August 1-Sept 15



Onions – Bunching or Shallots

- Plant sets / bulbs in September
- Harvest November-December
- Ebenezer, Yellow Globe, Silverskin, or Danvers for NC



Garlic

- Plant in October-November
- Break bulbs apart into individual cloves
- Plant cloves 1 inch deep and 4 inches apart in rows
- Mulch for extra winter protection
- Harvest the next spring/summer



Garlic

- Best planted from cloves obtained from garden centers or mail order catalogs
- **Hardneck varieties** (German Extra Hardy, Chesnok Red, Music, Spanish Roja)
– Recommended for NC
- **Softneck varieties** (California Early, many Italian cultivars, NY White Neck)
– Recommended for NC

Answer in
Chat Box



Have you ever grown a cover
crop?



Cover Crops

Crops that form a living mulch

- Reduce erosion
- Provide organic matter to the soil
- Green manure when turned into the soil

Benefits of cover crops

- Increased biomass
- Nitrogen fixation by legumes
- Many produce flowers for pollinators

Fall Cover Crops

Legumes fix nitrogen

- Austrian Winter Peas
- Crimson Clover
- Vetch
- Clover



Fall Cover Crops

Grasses

- Annual Ryegrass
- Oats
- Winter Wheat
- Winter Rye

Buckwheat

- Plant spring or summer



Fall / Winter Cover Crop

Phacelia at The Learning Garden at
Buncombe County Extension Office



Put the Soil to Bed with Leaves

Soil does not like to be bare all winter



Takeaways

- ✓ Fall gardens require planning for success
- ✓ There is a sense of urgency in fall gardening
- ✓ Frost protection required for almost all plants

Enjoy!



References

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- <https://www.buncombemastergardener.org/edible-alliums-chives-garlic-onions-shallots-fall-planting/>
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Help or Questions?

Garden Helpline
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Mon & Wed 10 am to 2 pm
Friday 10 am to noon

