



HOME & GARDEN

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Recommended Vegetable Cultivars for Maryland Home Gardens

The listed cultivars have performed well over a wide range of soil and weather conditions in different locations around the state. Maryland Master Gardeners selected many of these cultivars through a written survey. It is not possible to list all of the cultivars of each vegetable crop that would produce a satisfactory harvest in Maryland. Use this list and your past experience as a guide. Check with neighbors and other gardeners in your area to find out which cultivars grow best. Please call us and let us know if any of your favorite cultivars are missing from this list.

The characteristics of a single cultivar, including yield, flavor and pest resistance may vary somewhat depending on soil type, planting date, weather conditions and gardening techniques. If you have a particularly severe disease problem in your garden, select those cultivars with known resistance. Both open-pollinated and hybrid cultivars are listed (hybrids are followed by a “*”). With certain crops, like broccoli, summer squash, and sweet corn, hybrids tend to be more uniform and vigorous. Hybrid cultivars of all vegetable crops are more likely to have genetic resistance to specific diseases. Conversely, many open-pollinated cultivars have stood the test of time in Maryland gardens and will “come true” when grown from seed saved from the previous crop. Be aware, however, that many insect-pollinated crops, like squash and pumpkin are readily cross-pollinated if more than one cultivar of a single species is grown. In these cases, plants grown next season from saved seed will not come true unless special precautions are taken.

(* = HYBRID CULTIVAR)

ASPARAGUS

Jersey Giant*, Jersey King*, Jersey Knight*, Purple Passion

BEANS

Bush type-green snap: all Bush Blue Lake types, Contender, Derby, Greensleeves, Low’s Champion, Provider, Roma II (Italian flat podded), Royal Burgundy, Royalty, Slenderette, Tendercrop, Tenderette, Topcrop (early only), Vernandon

Filet/flageolet type: Decibel, Maxibel

Half-runner type: White Half-Runner

Bush type-wax: Goldcrop, Golden Rod, Goldfinger, Goldrush, Kinghorn, Resistant Cherokee, Yellow Wax

Pole type: Early Riser, Kentucky Blue, Kentucky Wonder, Pole Romano, Rattlesnake, Trionfo Violetto

Bush lima: Burpee’s Improved, Dixie Butter Pea, Early Thorogreen, Fordhook 242, Henderson Bush

Pole lima: Dr. Martin, King of the Garden, Prizetaker, Sieva

BEETS

Cylindra, Detroit Dark Red, Early Wonder, Formonova, Klein Ball, Red Ace*, Red Ball*, Ruby Queen

Winter storage: Lutz Winterkeeper

For greens: Crosby Green Top, Lutz Green Leaf

BROCCOLI

Bonanza*, Calabrese, Emperor*, Goliath*, Green Comet*, Packman*, Premium Crop*, Waltham 29

BRUSSELS SPROUTS

Jade Cross E*, Long Island Improved, Prince Marvel*, Valiant

CABBAGE

Copenhagen, Danish Ballhead, Dynamo*, Early Flat Dutch, Early Jersey Wakefield, Golden Acre (spring crop), Jersey Queen, Market Prize*, Savoy, Savoy Ace*, Savoy King*, Stonehead*

Red: Meteor, Red Danish Ballhead, Red Rock, Red Verone, Ruby Ball*

Chinese: China Doll, Jade Pagoda*, Joi Choi*, Me Quing Choi*

CARROTS

Advance, Artist, all Chantenay types, all Danvers types, Ingot*, Kinko, Lindoro, all Nantes types, Sweet n Short, Thumbelina

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CAULIFLOWER

Cashmere*, Early Hybrid, Rushmore*, all Snow Ball types, Snow Crown*, Violet Queen*

CELERY

Florida 683, all Utah 52-70 strains

CHARD, SWISS

Bright Lights, Fordhook, Lucullus, Rainbow, Rhubarb Chard

COLLARDS

Blue Max*, Champion, Georgia, Morris Heading, Top Bunch, Vates

CORN, SWEET

Yellow: Ambrosia*, Bodacious*, Clockwork*, Early Choice*, Golden Bantam, Golden Queen*, Illini, Incredible*, Jo Chief*, Kandy Corn*, Lancelot*, Seneca Chief*, Sugar Buns*, Sundance*

White: How Sweet It Is*, Platinum Lady*, Silver Queen*, Silverado*

Bi-color: Bi Queen*, Butter and Sugar*, Harmony*, Park's Honey & Pearl*, Peaches N Cream*, Sweet Sue*

CUCUMBER

Slicing: Fanfare*, Lemon, Marketmore 76, Marketmore 80, Park's Whopper, Poinsett 76, Slicemaster*, Straight Eight, Sweet Burpless, Sweet Slice*, Sweet Success*

Pickling: Calypso*, Country Fair, Early Pik, H-19 Little Leaf, National Pickling, Wisconsin SMR 58

Asian/European: Carmen*, Palace King*, Suoyo Long

Bush/container: Park's Better Bush, Salad Bush*, Spacemaster

EGGPLANT

Black Beauty, Classic*, Dusky*, Epic*, Neon*, Purple Rain*, Rosita

Asian type: Asian Bride, Machiaw, Millionaire, Oriental Long, Ping Tung Long

ENDIVE

Batavian, Green Curled

GARLIC

Hard-necked (rocambole): all cultivars

Soft-necked: all cultivars

KALE

Dutch Verdura, Dwarf Scotch, Lacinato, Red Ursa, Red Russian, Siberian, Winterbor, Vates Types

KOHLRABI

Early White Vienna, Grand Duke*, Purple Vienna

LEEKs

American Flag, Broad London, Carina

LETTUCE

Crisphead: Iceberg, Ithaca, Little Gem

Butterhead: Bibb (Limestone), Boston, Buttercrunch, Carmona

Romaine/Cos: Cocarde, Parris Island, Pirat, Tom Thumb

Leaf: Black Seeded Simpson, Bronze Arrow, Deer Tongue, Great Lakes, Green Ice, Grand Rapids, Oak Leaf (green and red), Red Sails, Ruby, Salad Bowl, Summertime, Tango, Vulcan

MUSKMELON

Athena, Ambrosia*, Burpee Hybrid*, Goldstar*, Jenny Lind, Superstar*

Honeydew: Earlidew, Marygold, Venus

Other melons: Crenshaw

MUSTARD

Green Wave, Osaka Purple, Red Giant, Southern Giant Curled, Tendergreen

OKRA

Annie Oakley II*, Burgundy, Cajun Delight*, Clemson Spineless, Dwarf Green Pod, Emerald

ONIONS

From seed/plants: Ailsa Craig, Ebenezer, Golden Globe, Italian Red Bottle, Kelsae Sweet Giant, Longkeeper, Red Stutgart, Sweet Sandwich, Walla Walla, White Lisbon, White Sweet Spanish, Yellow Globe

PARSNIPS

All-American, Hollow Crown, Model

PEAS

Garden: Early Freezer, Frosty, Green Arrow, Knight, Laxton, Lincoln, Maestro, Novella II, Patriot, Progress, Sparkle, Wando

Edible-podded: Dwarf Gray Sugar, Melting Sugar Mammouth, Oregon Sugar Pod types, Sugar Ann, Sugar Snap, Sugar Snow, Sugar Sweet

PEPPERS

Sweet (red): Ace*, Arianne*, Banana, Bell Captain*, Better Bell*, Bell Boy*, Big Bertha*, Bonanza*, Cal Wonder, Jupiter*, Keystone Resistant Giant, King Arthur*, Lady Bell*, Park's Whopper, Vidi*, Yolo Wonder

Sweet (yellow/orange): Orobelle, Quadrato D'Oro*, Valencia*, Yellow Golden Wonder

Italian frying: Corno di Toro, Cubanelle, Figaro, Gypsy, Italian Sweet, Navarone, Sweet Bullnose

Very pungent chiles: Charleston Hots*, Habanero, Jalapeno, Mitla* (jalapeno), Red Cayenne, Scotch Bonnet, Serrano, Serrano Huasteco, Super Cayenne*, Thai Dragon

Less pungent chiles: Ancho (poblano), Ancho 101, Hungarian Yellow Wax, Jalapeno M, Mexibelle* (bell type), Mulatto, Pasilla

Annaheim/Numex types: Anaheim, Big Chile*, Big Jim, Joe Parker, Ortega, Sugar Chile*

POTATOES

Blue, Butte, Caribe, Epicure, Irish Cobbler, Katahdin, Kennebec, Norgold Russett, Red Bison, Red Norland, Red Pontiac, Rose Gold, Yellow Finn, Yukon Gold

PUMPKINS

Giant: Big Max, Dill's Atlantic Giant

Jack-o-lantern: Connecticut Field, Howden, Lumina, Spookie, Triple Treat

Pie: Park's Small Sugar, Pie, Sugar Baby, Triple Treat

Ornamental: Jack-Be-Little

RADISH

Champion, Cherry Belle, Cherry Bomb, Cherry Georgia, Crimson Giant, Easter Egg, French Breakfast, Long French, Parkler, Prinz Rotin, Red Top, Salad Rose, Scarlet Globe, White Icicle

Asian/daikon: Daikon, Miyashige

RHUBARB

Cherry Red, Valentine, Victoria

RUTABAGAS

American Purple Top, Laurentian

SOUTHERN PEAS

California Blackeye #5, Extra Early Blackeye, Mississippi Silver, Purple Hull

SPINACH

America, Bloomsdale Long Standing, Melody*, Space*, Tyee*

Other: Malabar Spinach, Perpetual Spinach (a beet subspecies)

SQUASH

Zucchini: Black Beauty, Burpee Hybrid*, Cocozelle, Early Prolific, Park's Green Magic, Pic N Pic, Roly Poly, Seneca, Zucchini Elite

Summer yellow: Dixie*, Early Prolific Straight Neck, Goldbar, Multipik, Parks Creamy, Seneca Prolific, Sundance*, Yellow Crookneck

Winter: all Buttercup types, Carnival, Delicata (Sweet Potato), Jersey Acorn, North Georgia Candy Roaster, Sweet Dumpling, Table Ace* (acorn) Lakota, Table Queen (acorn), Tahitian Melon Squash, Waltham Butternut

Other: Patty Pan (scallop), Peter Pan* (scallop), Spaghetti, Sunburst* (scallop), Tivoli (spaghetti)

SWEET POTATOES

Centennial, Georgia Jet, Jewel, Porto Rico, Vardaman

TOMATOES

Red: Better Boy*, Big Beef*, Big Boy*, Big Girl*, Celebrity*, Delicious, Early Girl*, Jet Star*, Mortgage Lifter, Park's Whopper*, Red Pear, Rutgers, Stupice, Supersonic*

Pink/purple: Cherokee Purple, Eva Purple Ball, German Johnson, Giant Belgian, Pink Brandywine, Pruden's Purple

Yellow: Golden Queen, Lemon Boy, Yellow Pear

Bi- or tri-colored: Big Rainbow, Georgia Streak, Mammouth German Gold, Pineapple, Striped German

Paste: Amish Paste, Roma, San Marzano, San Remo, Super Italian, Viva Italia*

Cherry: Gardener's Delight, Sun Cherry, Sun Gold, Sweet 100*, Sweet Cherry, Sweet Million

Dwarf/container: Better Bush

TURNIPS

Roots and greens: Purple Top White Globe, Seven Top, Tokyo Cross*

Greens: All Top Hybrid*, Shogoin

WATERMELON

All Chaleston Gray types, Crimson Sweet, Golden Crown, Jubilee, Midnight, Moon and Stars, Tiger Baby, Yellow Baby

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