



March Vegetable Planting Guide

Peg Smith, UC Master Gardener, Yolo County

March can come in many weathers: from wet, to freezing cold, to a warm spell. It is a month for vegetable gardeners to be patient. Hold off on the planting of warm season transplants of tomatoes, peppers, eggplants, etc. that were started in January or February. If the soil is not sufficiently warm transplants will not progress but will remain static until the temperatures warm.

Do not be tempted in this bridging season, before it is time for the summer garden to plant brassica seedlings (cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli) that may still be available. There most likely will not be enough ‘chill’ hours (cold nights) that these brassicas need to produce a good crop before the spring warmth arrives. Brassicas will ‘bolt,’ produce rapidly developing flower stalks as soon as the weather warms. Collards and kale, also brassicas, can still be planted as they are a leafy crop and are more heat tolerant.

Large potted plants of tomatoes and peppers may arrive in the marketplace, some with perhaps flowers or small tomatoes showing. These will not give you a ‘jump’ on the summer season. It is better to wait and plant when the soil temperature is right and the weather warms, healthy seedlings that are smaller. These smaller seedlings will soon develop into large fruit bearing plants as the weather conditions signal their normal growth pattern.



An example of a healthy size for summer vegetable transplants.

YOLO COUNTY VEGETABLES RECOMMENDED FOR MARCH

Vegetable	WEEK 1	WEEK 2	WEEK 3	WEEK 4
Beets	Seed	Seed		
Carrots	Seed	Seed	Seed	Seed
Chard	Seed & transplants	Seed & transplants		
Corn			Seed	Seed
Cucumber			Seed – G or I*	Seed – G or I*
Eggplant	Seed – G or I*	Seed – G or I*	Seed – G or I*	Seed – G or I*
Lettuce	Seed	Seed	Seed	Seed & transplants
Peppers	Seed – G or I*	Seed – G or I*	Seed – G or I*	Seed – G or I*
Potato	Slips from tubers	Slips from tubers		
Tomato	Seed – G or I*	Seed – G or I*	Seed – G or I*	Transplants



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ADDITIONAL SACRAMENTO AREA RECOMMENDED VEGETABLES FOR MARCH

Vegetable	WEEK 1	WEEK 2	WEEK 3	WEEK 4
Artichoke	Seed	Seed	Seed	Seed
Beans	Seed	Seed	Seed	Seed
Celeriac	Seed	Seed	Seed	Seed
Chives	Seed & transplants	Seed & transplants	Seed & transplants	Seed & transplants
Collards	Seed	Seed		
Endive	Seed	Seed	Seed	Seed
Fennel (Florence)	Seed	Seed	Seed	Seed
Jicama	Seed	Seed	Seed	Seed
Kale	Seed	Seed		
Leeks	Seed & transplants	Seed & transplants	Seed & transplants	Seed & transplants
Mustard	Seed	Seed	Seed	Seed
Onions (Scallions)	Seed	Seed	Seed	Seed
Onions (Multiplier)	Bulblets	Bulblets	Bulblets	Bulblets
Parsley	Transplants	Transplants	Transplants	Transplants
Parsnip	Seed	Seed	Seed	Seed
Peas	Seed - pre-germinate	Seed – pre-germinate		
Potato	Slips from Tubers	Slips from tubers	Slips from tubers	Slips from tubers
Radish	Seed	Seed	Seed	Seed
Radish (Daikon)	Seed	Seed	Seed	Seed
Squash (Summer)			Seed	Seed
Squash (Winter)			Seed	Seed
Sweet potato	Slips in containers	Slips in containers	Slips in containers	Slips in Containers
Turnips	Seed	Seed	Seed	Seed