

Warm-season vegetables for Nevada County

Soil temp. for seed germination

Air temp. for growth

Plant in and around your garden to attract beneficial insects:

Min.	Optimum	Max.	Days to germination	Day GV avg. lows	Night June–Aug. 51°–57°
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DIRECT SOW WHEN COOL

CARROT*	40°	80°	95°	8 - 14	40° - 85°
BEET*	40°	85°	85°	5 - 10	60° - 65°
SWISS CHARD	50°	85°	95°	7 - 14	60° - 80°
RADISH	50°	95°	95°	7 - 14	50° - 65°

These cool-season vegetables may also be grown throughout the warm season.

Calendula • Nasturtium • Borage
Amaranth • Mints • Fennel • Sage
Dill • Parsley • Basil • Creeping thyme
Cilantro • Carrot and aster family (daisies, sunflower, yarrow)

Tiny flowers, like those found on herbs, provide the best pollen and nectar for beneficial insects. Because many of the beneficial insects are small, tiny flowers are easiest for them to feed from. Some vegetable plants, when allowed to flower, will also attract beneficials. These include broccoli, lettuce, other greens, bok choy and corn.

DIRECT SOW or TRANSPLANT WHEN WARM (tender)

BASIL*	60°	70°	85°	7 - 14	
BEANS	60°	80°	95°	7 - 14	60° - 80°
TOMATO	50°	85°	95°	5 - 14	70° - 80° 60° - 65°
CORN*	50°	95°	105°	7 - 10	70° - 75° 60° - 65°
SQUASH	60°	95°	100°	9 - 12	70° - 90° 60° - 70°
CUCUMBER	60°	95°	105°	7 - 10	70° - 90° 60° - 70°

Warm-season vegetables prefer summer-like weather 70°F to 95°F and are intolerant of frost. Nighttime temperatures below 50°–55°F may stunt corn, cucumbers and tomatoes.

Some California natives that attract beneficials: California fuchsia • Western Redbud • Ceanothus 'Concha' and maritimus 'Valley Violet' • Santa Barbara daisy • Saint Catherine's lace • Winnifred Gilman Cleveland sage • Cascade Creek California goldenrod • Silver carpet California aster • Valley oak

Other vegetables you may want to grow:

Rhubarb, asparagus, artichoke, sun chokes, potatoes

DIRECT SOW or TRANSPLANT WHEN WARMER (very tender)

EGGPLANT	60°	85°	95°	7 - 12	70° - 80° 65° - 70°
PEPPER	60°	85°	95°	14 - 21	70° - 80° 60° - 70°
WINTER SQUASH	60°	90°	100°	6 - 10	
CANTALOUPE	60°	90°	100°	7 - 10	70° - 90° 60° - 70°
PUMPKIN	60°	90°	100°	7 - 10	
WATERMELON	60°	95°	105°	7 - 10	70° - 90° 60° - 70°

Very tender vegetables are not only intolerant of frost, but need daytime temperatures above 60°F and prefer temperatures of 70°F to 95°F.

Vine crops (cucumbers, squash, melons) roots are extremely intolerant of being disturbed and perform best when grown by direct seeding rather than by transplants.

Direct-seeded crops germinate rapidly with the use of clear, UV-resistant plastic to warm the soil.

*Can be planted in succession (2–4 weeks apart)



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Faster germination = greater chances for success. Insert soil thermometer 3-4" into the soil for soil temp.
Sources: UC Davis, Colorado State University, Oklahoma State University, North Carolina State University, Utah State University, Alabama A&M and Auburn Universities, University of Florida, US Department of Agriculture