

# Vegetable Planting Guide for Cooke County

Texas AgriLife Extension Service – Cooke County

**Cool weather crops** – Can tolerate light frosts, prefer cool temperatures spring & fall

Vegetable	Planting time	Amount to plant per person			Plant spacing (in inches)	Distance between rows (in inches)	Seed planting depth	Days to germination	Days to first harvest	Culture and harvesting tips
		Seeds or plants	Length of single row (in ft.)	Length of wide row (1 ft. wide)						
Beet	Feb 10 – May 15 Aug 1 – Sept 30	½ pkt	5' – 10'	2' – 3'	3" – 4"	18" – 36"	½ in	7 - 12	50 - 65	When thinning plants, the tops can be cooked as greens
Broccoli	Feb 10 – Mar 15 Aug 1 – Aug 31	5 – 10 plants	8' – 12'		18" – 24"	24" – 36"	Plants 4" – 6" Seeds ¼ in	6 – 9	50 – 80 from transplant	Best started from transplants 80 – 100 days from seed. Side heads will form after 1 <sup>st</sup> head is cut
Brussels Sprouts	Feb 10 – Mar 15 Aug 1 – Aug 31	5 – 10 plants	8' – 12'		18" – 24"	24" – 36"	Plants 4" – 6" Seeds 1/4 "	6 – 9	65 – 75 from transplant	Transplants best. 100 – 110 days from seed
Cabbage	Feb 1 – Feb 28 Sept 1 – Sept 15	5 – 10 plants	8' – 12'	3' – 4'	18" – 24"	24" – 36"	Plants 4" – 6" Seeds ¼"	6 – 9	60 – 90 from transplant	Transplants best. 90 – 150 days from seeds. Can use thinnings for transplants
Carrot	Feb 10 – Mar 20 Aug 1 – Aug 31	½ pkt	5' – 10'	2' – 3'	1" – 3"	12" – 24"	¼ "	12 – 18	55 – 80	Can be eaten at any size. Use largest when thinning
Cauliflower	Feb 10 – Mar 20 Aug 1 – Aug 31	3 – 5 plants	5' – 10'		18" – 24"	18" – 36"	1/4 "	6 – 9	65 – 80	Tie outer leaves above head when curds are 2-3 in. in diameter. Heads ready 4 – 12 days later
Collards	Feb 10 – Apr 30 Aug 10 – Sept 30	3 – 5 plants	4' – 6'	1' – 2'	18" – 24"	24" – 36"	Plants 4" – 6" Seeds ¼"	6 – 9	65 – 85 from transplant	Flavor improves with frost. Will stand cold weather and heat
Garlic	Feb 1 – Mar 1 Aug 1 – Oct 15	5 bulbs	3'	1'	4"	24" – 36"	2"		90	Can be planted in late fall for a big crop next year
Kale	Feb 15 – Mar 10 Aug 1 – Sept 15	¼ pkt	5' – 10'	2' – 3'	8" – 12"	18" – 36"	¼"	6 – 9	50 – 65	Good fall & winter crop. Can be used as a cover crop
Kohlrabi	Feb 20 – Mar 10 Aug 15 – Sept 15	¼ pkt	3' – 5'	1' – 2'	4" – 6"	18" – 36"	1/4 "	6 – 9	50 – 70	Use when root ball is 2" – 3" in diameter
Lettuce	Feb 7 – Mar 15 Aug 10 – Sept 30	½ pkt	5' – 10'	2' – 3'	3" – 6"	18" – 36"	¼"	5 – 10	35 – 50	Head lettuce should be grown from transplants. Leaf lettuce excellent in wide row planting
Mustard	Feb 20 – Mar 31 Aug 10 – Oct 31	¼ pkt	3' – 5'	1' – 2'	3" – 4"	18" – 36"	¼"	5 – 8	35 – 45	Can be harvested most of winter
Onion Seed	Feb 7 – Mar 10 Oct 1 – Nov 30	¼ pkt	10' – 15'	4' – 5'	3" – 4"	18" – 36"	¼"	7 – 12	85 – 200	For fresh use, harvest when ½" to 1". For storage, harvest when tops turn brown and fall over
Sets & plants	Feb 1 – Mar 17	1 bulb 1 bunch	10' – 15'	4' – 5'	3" – 4"	18" – 36"	1" 1"		25 – 35 25 – 35	
Parsnip	Feb 15 – Mar 15	¼ pkt	3' – 5'	1' – 2'	3" – 4"	12" – 24"	¼"	15 – 20	120 – 150	Good winter keeper. May be left in ground over winter and used in spring
Peas, Sweet	Feb 1 – Mar 15 Sept 1 – Oct 31	¼ lb	15' – 25'	0' – 8'	1" – 3"	18" – 36"	1"	7 – 10	50 – 80	Likes cool weather
Potato	Feb 7 – Mar 15 July 25 – Aug 25	5 – 10 lbs	50' – 100'		12"	30"	4"	15 – 20	100 – 120	Plant cut section of potato containing one or more eyes. For storage, harvest after vine is dead
Radish	Jan 20 – Apr 30 Sept 1 – Nov 15	½ pkt	5' – 10'	2' – 3'	1"	12" – 24"	¼"	3 – 5	25 – 35	Plant along with other root crops. Also use for bug control with warm weather vegetables
Rutabaga	Jan 15 – Mar 1 July 15 – Aug 15	¼ pkt	5' – 10'	2' – 3'	6" – 8"	18" – 36"	½"	6 – 10	80 – 90	Best as a fall crop
Spinach	Jan 10 – Mar 15 Sept 10 – Oct 31	½ pkt	5' – 10'	2' – 3'	2" – 4"	18" – 36"	¼"	7 – 12	40 – 50	Goes to seed quickly in hot weather
Swiss Chard	Feb 20 – May 10 June 1 – Sept 15	¼ pkt	5' – 10'	2' – 3'	6" – 8"	18" – 36"	½" – 1"	7 – 10	45 – 55	Good for early summer greens
Turnip	Feb 7 – Mar 10 Sept 1 – Oct 15	¼ oz	10' – 15'	3' – 4'	3" – 6"	18" – 36"	¼"	5 – 10	40 – 60	Good fall & winter crop. Green tops can be cooked as greens. Some varieties only for greens

# Vegetable Planting Guide for Cooke County

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**Warm weather crops** – Will not stand frosts, prefer lots of sun and warmth

Vegetable	Planting time	Amount to plant per person			Plant spacing (in inches)	Distance between rows (in inches)	Seed planting depth	Days to germination	Days to first harvest	Culture and harvesting tips
		Seeds or plants	Length of single row (in ft.)	Length of wide row (1 ft. wide)						
Lima pole Bean	Apr 1 – Jun 15	1/8 lb	20' – 25'	4' – 6'	18" – 36"	24" – 36"	1"	7 – 14	80 – 95	Pole limas will bear continuously. Keep picked. Likes warm soil
	July 1 – Aug 15	1/8 lb	10' – 15'	4' – 6'	3" – 6"	24" – 36"	1"	7 – 14	65 – 80	
Snap pole Bean	Mar 15 – May 31	1/8 lb	15' – 25'	10' – 20'	18" – 36"	36" – 48"	1"	7 – 14	60 – 70	Make succession planting
	July 1 – Aug 31	¼ lb	25' – 50'	10' – 20'	3" – 6"	18" – 36"	1"	5 – 10	50 – 60	
Cantaloupe Muckmelon	Apr 1 – Apr 30 July 10 – July 31	¼ pkt 3 – 5 hills	15' – 25'		36" or in hills 5' apart	36" – 48"	½" – 1"	7 – 14	75 – 100	Leave 3 – 4 plants in each hill or plant in rows. Can be transplanted in peat pots
Sweet corn	Mar 15 – Apr 30 June 1 – Aug 15	1 oz	25' – 50'		8" – 12"	18" – 36"	1"	5 – 12	60 – 95	Make succession plantings in 2 week intervals or plant varieties with different maturity dates.
Cucumber	Apr 1 – Apr 30 May 31 – Aug 15	2 – 3 hills	10' – 15'		12" or 48" between hills	36" – 48"	½" – 1"	7 – 10	60 – 70	Leave 3 to 4 plants on each hill or plant in rows
Eggplant	Apr 1 – Apr 30 May 31 – July 15	2 – 3 plants	4' – 6'		24"	36"	½"	10 – 14	80 – 90	Transplants well in peat pots
Okra	Apr 1 – June 15	¼ pkt	4' – 6'		18" – 24"	36"	½" – 1"	5 – 8	50 – 55	Enjoys hot weather. Long harvest season
Peanuts	June 1 – June 30	30 – 40 nuts shelled	10' – 20'		3" – 6"	24" – 36"	1 ½"	6 – 10	110 – 120	Needs long hot season. Remove shells before planting
Peppers	Apr 10 – June 10	¼ pkt or 2 – 3 plants	4' – 6'		24"	36"	½"	10 – 14	60 – 100	Transplants well. For red peppers leave on plants until fully mature
Pumpkin & Winter squash	Apr 1 – July 31	¼ pkt or 2 – 3 hills	12' – 18'		48" – 72"	60" – 96"	1"	7 – 14	100 – 120	Give lots of growing room. For winter storage, skin should be hard. Leave on 1" of stem
Southern peas, field, crowder, black-eyed	Apr 1 – Aug 15	1/8 lb	20' – 25'	7' – 10'	3" – 6"	24" – 36"	1"	7 – 10	70 – 80	Likes hot weather. Grow like snap beans
Squash (summer)	Apr 1 – May 15 July 10 – Aug 15	1 – 2 hills	3' – 6'		36"	36" – 48"	½" – 1"	7 – 10	50 – 70	Can be very early crop if started in peat pots and transplanted
Sweet Potato	Apr 5 – June 31	10 – 18 plants	20' – 24'		18" – 24"	36" – 48"	3" – 4"	6 – 10	150	Sprout potato in sand. Use the slips when 4" – 6" long for transplants
Tomato	Apr 1 – May 20 July 1 – Aug 5	¼ pkt or 3 – 5 plants	10' – 15'		24" – 36"	36" – 48"	¼" – ½"	7 – 14	55 – 90	Start in peat pot or flats indoors. Transplants well
Watermelon	Apr 1 – Apr 30 July 10 – July 31	¼ pkt or 3 – 5 hills	25' – 40'		48" or in hills 6' – 8' apart	60" – 96"	1"	7 – 12	75 – 100	Leave 3 – 4 plants in a hill. Can be transplanted in peat pots. Give lots of growing room

Growing Region: 7

Avg rainfall: 35.9"

Avg. date of first frost: November 16

Avg date of last frost: March 16

Gerald Homes – Master Gardener

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