

Pests and Diseases.

The major pests are slugs and snails. These can be controlled by spreading bait at planting time - Blitzem pellets—fast and cheap— short term Blitzem Granules— longer lasting, spread further. Baysol pellets— very long lasting, work in rain. Quash—safe where pets roam

Main fungus diseases of vegetables are blight, powdery mildew, downy mildew, botrytis, sclerotinia, leaf spots, and rust. These are all controlled with Grosafe FreeFlo Copper.

Main insect pests of vegetables are aphids, white fly caterpillars, shield bug, and potato psyllid. (less common are thrips and mites) All these pests are controlled with Yates Mavrik.

These pesticides are of low toxicity, with relatively short withholding period. Check our spray charts for full information.

For organic gardeners, or control of insects close to, or during harvest use Natures Way Fungus for diseases, Natures Way Insect for aphids and white fly, and Natures Way Caterpillar for caterpillars.

For more information on Vegetable Gardening refer to Yates Garden Guide or Garden Pest & Disease Control by Bill Brett.

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DÉCOR
GARDENWORLD

Welcome to Décor Gardenworld *Tauranga's Favourite Garden Stop*

Décor has been in the Clark Family since 1967 - Dave and Ginny Clark are pleased to welcome you.

Please enjoy our ...

- Relaxed ambience
- Top Quality Plants
- Fabulous Gift Selection
- Advice you can trust
- Garden Design Service
- Garden Lovers Loyalty Card
- Popular Bloom Café
- Kids playground in a lovely garden setting



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Vegetables

Continuous Harvest Plan



There is nothing quite like the taste of fresh vegetables straight from the garden. Add to this the satisfaction and sense of achievement, the savings, the knowledge that your vegetables are free of pesticides and you have some very powerful reasons for growing your own vegetables. This planting plan ensures you have a continuous supply of fresh vegetables year round, even from a small space.



DÉCOR GARDENWORLD
TAURANGA'S FAVOURITE GARDEN STOP

At a Glance

- Warm, sunny site.
- Free draining soil with compost added.
- Quality seeds or plants.
- Water during dry periods.
- Planned succession of crops.

Selecting the site

Vegetables will grow best in a warm sunny position. They will not grow and yield in shade or where they have to compete for light and moisture. Shelter from strong winds is also a benefit. The size of the vegetable garden depends on the size of your family and the vegetables required.

The soil

Vegetables require a free draining soil rich in organic matter (compost). Where drainage is poor, the vegetable plot should be raised or built up some 15cm above the surrounding soil to ensure good drainage.

The seed

Modern hybrid varieties of vegetables are higher yielding, better tasting, more disease resistant and more uniform than old varieties. We have some of New Zealand's best seeds here in store at Décor Gardenworld. See the Ican Seed Range for the Top 15 Varieties.



The plants

In many cases it is more convenient to buy plants than to raise seeds. It saves time, and often only a small number of plants are required. The same principle applies as for seed, buy quality. Good seedlings should have 6-8 true leaves and be 5-8 cm high. Hybrids will cost a little more, but are worth it.

The seasons

Most vegetables prove disappointing if grown out of season.

At Décor we always have a premium range of seasonal vegetable plants available in punnets which we cared for and guarantee to grow given the right conditions.

Cool season vegetables grow best at temperatures of 10 to 20°C, but can tolerate colder. This group includes broad beans, broccoli, brussel sprouts, cauliflower, onions, peas, spinach, swede and turnips and some lettuces.

These vegetables are best planted February to September for harvesting May to December.

Warm season vegetables grow best at temperatures above 20°C. They grow poorly in cold weather and are susceptible to frost. This group includes beans, capsicum, eggplant, potato, sweetcorn, kumara, tomato and all the cucurbit vine crops. They are planted October to January for harvesting December to May.

There is a third group of vegetables which are intermediate and grow best at temperatures of 15 to 25°C. This group includes beetroot, cabbage, carrot, celery, leek, lettuce, parsnip, radish and silver beet. Many of these can be grown most of the year in warmer districts, but the correct variety for the season must be chosen or they will bolt to seed. Refer to the Yates Garden Guide for details.

Planning a succession

Beginners often make the mistake of planting up a whole garden in October. All the crops are then ready for harvesting at the same time in early January just as the family goes away on holiday. For a steady continuous supply of vegetables it is best to plan requirements and sow little and often. At the same time make use of the season changes and rotate crops. A plot system rather than rows often makes this easier to manage.

Watering

During dry weather it is important to keep vegetables actively growing by regular watering. If they suffer moisture stress they will bolt to seed. It is best to water in the mornings if possible, so the plants have the moisture they need throughout the day.

Feeding

At the beginning of spring apply a dressing of lime. Work this into the soil and leave for a week, then add Ican Blood & Bone or Ican Vegetable Food and work this into the soil. A cup of sheep pellets is good too. When transplanting it is a good idea to water in with Oceangrow Fish Fertiliser to ensure a good start.

Regular feeding with Oceangrow is beneficial for fast growing crops such as lettuces and tomatoes.

Mixed Ornamental Plantings

Another space saving technique is to introduce vegetables into the ornamental garden. Hedges of sweetcorn, or climbing beans on a fence, blocks of lettuce, carrots, onions, cabbages and leeks for contrasting foliage. Try bright coloured vegetables such as multi-coloured silverbeet, yellow tomatoes, yellow and red peppers. Parsley makes an awesome border planting.

Dividing up the Space

Some vegetables such as potatoes, courgettes, buttercup, pumpkins, sweetcorn and broad beans take a lot of space and are best grown in a separate area where they are allowed space to spread without shading or smothering smaller plants. Growing in plots rather than rows often works best for the smaller plants such as lettuces, carrots, onions, leeks.