

## Vegetable Growing Vital Statistics

| Family         | Species  | Soil                             | pH                                       | Soil temperature<br>for germination<br>F degrees<br><u>day</u> ; <u>night</u> | Air temperature<br>for best<br>growth F<br>degrees<br><u>day</u> ; <u>night</u> | Seed                 |                       |                               |
|----------------|--|----------------------------------|--|---|---|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
|                |  |                                  |  |   |   | Viability<br>(years) | Germination<br>(days) | Planting<br>depth<br>(inches) |
| Compositae     | <i>Lactuca sativa</i><br><b>Lettuce</b>                    | Very rich organic heavy or light | 5.8 – 7.0                                | 35 - 80   | 73d; 45n  | 1 - 6                | 3 - 7                 | 1/4                           |
|                | <i>Spinacia oleracea</i><br><b>Spinach</b>                 |                                  | 6.0 – 6.5                                | 35 - 75   | 60 – 65d<br>40-45n  | 3                    | 6 - 12                | 1/2                           |
| Cruciferae     | <i>Brassica oleracea</i><br><b>Cabbage</b>                 | Slightly heavy loam              | 6.0 - 7.5<br>6.5 – 7.0<br>(cauliflower ) | 45 – 85<br>55 – 85<br>(cauliflower)   | 60 - 65   | 3 - 4                | 4 - 20                | 1/2                           |
| Amaryllidaceae | <i>Allium cepa</i><br><b>Onions</b>                        | Rich organic                     | 6.0 – 6.8                                | 50 – 85<br>75 optimum   | 70 - 80   | 2                    | 4 - 13                | 1/4 - 1/2                     |
| Cruciferae     | <i>Raphanus sativus</i><br><b>Radishes</b>                 | Loose well drained sandy loam    | 6.0 – 6.5                                | 45 – 95<br>85 optimum   | 45 - 75<br>60 – 65<br>optimum   | 5                    | 3 - 10                | 1/2 – 1 1/2                   |
|                |  |                                  | 6.5 – 8.0                                | 50 – 85<br>85 optimum   |   | 4                    | 7 - 14                | 1/2 - 1                       |
| Chenopodiaceae | <i>Beta vulgaris</i><br><b>Beets</b><br><b>Swiss Chard</b> | Loose well drained sandy loam    | 6.0 – 6.5                                | 45 – 85<br>80 optimum   | 45 - 75<br>60 – 65<br>optimum   | 3                    | 7 - 14                | 1/4                           |
| Umbelliferae   | <i>Daucus carota</i><br><b>Carrots</b>                     |                                  |  |   |   |                      |                       |                               |

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|------------------|--|----------------------------------|---|--|---|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
|                  |  |                                  |   |  |   | Viability<br>(years) | Germination<br>(days) | Planting<br>depth<br>(inches) |
| Solanaceae       | <i>Solanum tuberosum</i><br><b>Potatoes</b>                                      | Sandy loam<br>good drainage      | 5.0 – 8.0<br>5.5 or lower<br>for scab<br>problem                                      | 50 – 70<br>64 optimum  | 60 – 80d<br>45 – 60n<br>lower than<br>30 kills vine                   | 1/2                  | -                     | 8                             |
| Legumino-<br>sae | <i>Phaseolus vulgaris</i><br><b>Green and<br/>dry beans</b>                      | Well<br>drained<br>sandy<br>loam | Snap and<br>dry 6.0 –<br>7.0<br>6.4<br>optimum<br>Lima 6.0 –<br>6.5<br>6.2<br>optimum | Snap and<br>dry 60 – 85<br>Lima 70 – 85                                | 60 – 70; 80<br>max  | 3                    | 6 - 17                | 2                             |
|                  | <i>Pisum sativum</i><br><b>Peas</b>  |                                  | 5.5 – 6.8   | 40 -75<br>75 optimum   | 55 - 70   |                      |                       |                               |
| Gramineae        | <i>Zea mays rugosa</i><br><b>Sweet corn</b><br><i>-praecox</i><br><b>Popcorn</b> | Any<br>good rich                 | 5.5 – 6.8   | 60 - 95  | 60 min<br>75 – 90<br>95 max   | 1-2                  | 3 - 12                | 2 -3                          |

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|---------------|---|-------------------------|-------------------------------|--|---|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|               |   |                         |                               |  |   | Viability (years) | Viability (years) | Viability (years) |
| Solanaceae    | <i>Lycopersion esculentum</i><br><b>Tomatoes</b>  | Sandy loam well drained | 6.0 – 6.8                     | 60 - 75  | 70 – 75d<br>50 – 55n  | 5 - 7             | 5 - 14            | 1/2               |
|               | <i>Capsicum annum</i><br><b>Peppers</b>   | Deep loose and rich     | 5.5 – 7.0                     | 60 – 95<br>85 optimum  | 75 – 85d<br>50 – 65n  | 2 - 4             | 6 - 28            | 1/2               |
| Cucurbitaceae | <i>Cucumbis sativis</i><br><b>Cucumbers</b><br><i>Cucurbita sp.</i><br><b>Squash, pumpkins</b><br><i>Cucumis melo</i><br><b>Muskmelons</b><br><i>Citrullus lanatus</i><br><b>Watermelon</b> | Rich and loose          | 7.0<br>Do poorly in acid soil | 65 – 100<br>85 – 95 optimum  | 65 – 75<br><br>70 - 85  | 2 - 5             | 3 - 10            | 1/2- 1            |