

2012

Recommended Vegetable Varieties for North Dakota Gardens

Selecting a superior variety is the first step to success in vegetable gardening.

Gardeners who sow a **superior variety** can grow plants that will yield abundantly, resist disease, tolerate heat and drought, and produce delicious food. In contrast, gardeners who sow an **inferior variety** are headed for frustrations. No matter how hard they work in preparing the soil, watering, weeding, and managing pests, they may have disappointing results.

The following varieties have performed well in research conducted in gardens and research stations in North Dakota and other states in the Midwest:

ASPARAGUS. All-male: Jersey Giant, Jersey Knight, Jersey Supreme. **Other:** Martha Washington, Mary Washington, Purple Passion.

BEAN. Bush: Blue Lake 274, Derby, Espada, Jade, Provider, Roma II, Royal Burgundy. **Dry:** Great Northern. **Lima:** Fordhook 242, Eastland. **Pole:** Fortex. **Soy-bean:** Envoy. **Wax:** Carson, Gold Rush, Rocdor.

BEET. Bull's Blood, Detroit Dark Red, Early Wonder, Red Ace, Red Cloud, Touchstone Gold.

BROCCOLI. Belstar, Green Comet, Packman, Premium Crop.

BRUSSELS SPROUTS. Jade Cross E.

CABBAGE. Chinese: Blues. **Head:** Danish Ballhead, Early Jersey Wakefield, Golden Acre, Ruby Perfection, Stonehead. **Savoy:** Savoy Blue.

CARROT. Hercules, Mokum, Nelson, Purple Haze, Rainbow, Scarlet Nantes, Sweetness III., Yellowstone.

CAULIFLOWER. Amazing, Cheddar, Snow Crown, Violet Queen.

CORN. Normal: Butter & Sugar, Jubilee, Seneca Horizon. **Sugary enhanced:** Ambrosia, Bodacious, Delectable, Luscious, Spring Treat, Sugar Buns, Trinity. **Synergistic:** Honey Select, Montauk.

CUCUMBER. Pickling: Alibi, Calypso, Eureka, Homemade Pickles, Little Leaf H-19. **Slicing:** Burpless 26, Dasher II, Diva, Fanfare, General Lee, Marketmore



76, Orient Express II, Salad Bush, Sweet Slice, Sweet Success, Sweeter Yet.

EGGPLANT. Black Beauty, Dusky, Fairytale, Ichiban, Orient Express.

GARLIC. Chesnok Red, German Red, Inchelium Red, Killarney Red, Music, Spanish Roja.

GREENS. Hon Tsai Tai, Joi Choi, Komatsuna, Mizuna, Mei Qing Choi, Osaka Purple, Red Giant, Tatsoi, Tendergreen, Vegetable Amaranth.

KALE. Red Russian, Vates.

KOHLRABI. Early White Vienna, Kolibri, Winner.

LETTUCE. Leaf: Deer Tongue, New Red Fire, Red Sails, Salad Bowl, Slobolt, Simpson Elite. **Bibb:** Buttercrunch, Harmony, Nevada, Sierra. **Romaine:** Cimmarron/Rouge d'Hiver, Freckles, Parris Island.

MELON. Muskmelon: Athena, Goddess, Superstar. **Specialty:** Earli-Dew, Passport, Sun Jewel.

OKRA. Annie Oakley II, Cajun Delight, Red Burgundy.

ONION. Ailsa Craig, Candy, Copra, Red Zeppelin, Sweet Sandwich, Walla Walla.

PEA. Shell: Early Frosty, Eclipse, Green Arrow, Lincoln, Little Marvel, Maestro, Progress No. 9, Wando. **Snap:** Sugar Sprint, Super Sugar Snap. **Snow:** Oregon Giant, Oregon Sugar Pod II.

PEPPER. Bell: Bell Boy, Early Sunsatation, Jupiter, New Ace, North Star. **Frying/Roasting:** Carmen, Giant Marconi, Gypsy. **Hot:** Early Jalapeno, Garden Salsa, Hot Paper Lantern, Hungarian Hot Wax, Mariachi, Mucho Nacho, Super Cayenne.

POTATO. Kennebec, Red Norland, Red Pontiac, Superior, Yukon Gold.

PUMPKIN. Cooking: Baby Bear, Small Sugar, Rouge Vif D'Etampes. **Jack-o'-lantern:** Autumn Gold, Howden, Neon, Orange Smoothie, Racer Plus. **Competition:** Dill's Atlantic Giant, Prizewinner. **Specialty:** Jamboree, Lumina.

RADISH. Standard: Amethyst, Champion, Cherry Belle, Easter Egg II, French Breakfast, Pretty in Pink, Rover, White Icicle. **Asian:** April Cross, Shunkyo Semi-Long, Summer Cross No. 3.

RUTABAGA. American Purple Top.

SPINACH. Bloomsdale Long Standing, Melody, Olympia, Red Cardinal, Space, Tye.

SQUASH, SUMMER. Crookneck: Pic-n-Pic, Sundance. **Scallop:** Flying Saucer, Sunburst. **Straightneck:** Multipik, Superpik. **Zucchini:** Gold Rush, Portofino, Spineless Beauty, Zucchini Elite.

SQUASH, WINTER. Acorn: Carnival, Cream of the Crop, Table Ace, Table King. **Buttercup:** Bon Bon, Burgess. **Butternut:** Early Butternut, Waltham. **Delicata:** Cornell's Bush Delicata. **Hubbard:** Blue Magic. **Kabocha:** Ambercup, Sunshine, Sweet Mama.

SWEET POTATO. Beauregard.

SWISS CHARD. Bright Lights, Lucullus, Rhubarb.

TOMATO. Cherry/Juliet, Small Fry, Sun sugar, Supersweet 100, Sweet Baby Girl, Yellow Pear. **Fresh market:** Big Beef, Celebrity, Early Girl, Goliath, Mountain Fresh Plus. **Paste:** Roma VF, Viva Italia. **Heirloom:** Brandywine, Cherokee Purple, Rainbow, Striped German, Stupice, Wisconsin 55.

TURNIP. Purple Top White Globe, Tokyo Cross.

WATERMELON. Seeded: Legacy, Sugar Baby, Sweet Dakota Rose, Yellow Baby, Yellow Doll. **Seedless:** Amarillo, Millionaire, Solitaire, Trillion.

Seed Companies

The following are some popular sources of garden seeds. Listing these sources does not guarantee or warranty their seed by North Dakota State University Extension Service and does not imply approval to the exclusion of other sources.

Burpee Seed, 300 Park Ave., Warminster, PA 18974; <www.burpee.com>; (800) 888-1447.

Fedco Seeds, PO Box 520, Waterville, ME 04903; <www.fedcoseeds.com>.

Gurney's Seed and Nursery, PO Box 4178, Greendale, IN 47025; <www.gurneys.com>; (513) 354-1492.

Harris Seeds, 355 Paul Rd., PO Box 24966, Rochester, NY 14624; <www.harriseseeds.com>; (800) 544-7938.

Henry Fields, PO Box 397, Aurora, IN 47001; <www.henryfields.com>; (513) 354-1494.

Horticultural Products and Services, 335 S. High St., Randolph, WI 53957; <www.hpseed.com>.

Johnny's Selected Seeds, 955 Benton Ave., Winslow, ME 04901; <www.johnnyseeds.com>; (877) 564-6697.

Jung Seed, 335 S. High St., Randolph, WI 53957; <www.jungseed.com>; (800) 247-5864.

Kitazawa Seed, PO Box 13220, Oakland, CA 94661; <www.kitazawaseed.com>; (510) 595-1188.

Mountain Valley Seed, 1438 S. 700 West, Salt Lake City, UT 84104; <www.mvseeds.com>; (801) 486-5730.

Park Seed., 1 Parkton Avenue, Greenwood, SC 29647; <www.parkseed.com>; (800) 213-0076.

Pinetree Garden Seeds, PO Box 300, Gloucester, ME 04260; <www.superseeds.com>; (207) 926-3400.

Seed Savers Exchange, 3094 North Winn Road, Decorah, IA 52101; <www.seedsavers.org>; (563) 382-5990.

Seedway, 99 Industrial Road, Elizabethtown, PA 17022; <www.seedway.com>; (800) 952-7333.

Stokes Seeds, PO Box 548 Buffalo, NY 14240; <www.stokeseeds.com>; (800) 396-9238.

Territorial Seed, PO Box 158, Cottage Grove, OR 97424; <www.territorialseed.com>; (800) 626-0866.

NDSU EXTENSION SERVICE

Written by Tom Kalb, Extension Horticulturist, North Dakota State University, <tom.kalb@ndsu.edu>. The author gratefully acknowledges the efforts of over 500 gardeners in North Dakota and over 500 gardeners in nearby states who evaluated most of these varieties.

January 2012