

# Recommended Variety List for Interior Alaska

HGA-00030

Growing vegetables in Alaska can be easy and rewarding. In this land of the midnight sun, there are few pests and plants grow quickly. During Alaska's long days, plants photosynthesize, building size. During cool nights, respiration is slow and plants retain the sweetness unlike anywhere else.

Because of the Interior's latitude and unique climatic conditions, selecting the right varieties is important. The long day lengths can be a challenge, causing beets, spinach and radishes to bolt or go to seed prematurely. The many hours of sunlight signal some types of plants to flower. The cold soil can slow down root growth and require special soil-warming techniques for warm-season crops such as tomatoes and corn. Soil-warming techniques are described in Extension publication HGA-00132, *Raised Bed Gardening in Alaska*.

Varieties can be selected to reduce bolting and withstand cool soil temperatures. Varieties can also be selected for the intended use. Individuals entering vegetables in the state fair can select varieties for their large size, which is ultimately determined by the genetic makeup of the variety.



Varieties such as O-S Cross cabbage have the potential to utilize the sun and grow to champion sizes. If winter storage is desired, it is best to select a late-maturing variety and harvest as late as possible. Refer to the comment sections in the following tables to find the varieties good for storage.

In Alaska, gardening is also easy because there are few pests with which to share our crops. The most common pest is the root maggot, which is the larval form of a small fly. It attacks cole crops and onions. Understanding its life cycle can help the gardener avoid this pest. Ask for a copy of Extension publication PMC-10074, *Identifying and Controlling Pests in Alaska*, for suggestions on control.

Many of the varieties listed in this publication were field-tested by research horticulturists at the Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Additional testing has been conducted by Extension agents and specialists, Master Gardeners and growers.

Most of the varieties have been selected after years of successful trials and evaluation. There are a few, however, that have been included because they have shown exceptional promise after only one or two years of testing.



## Garden Vegetables

| Vegetable          | Variety                  | Maturity           | Yield | Comments  |
|--------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|-------|---|
| <b>Artichoke</b>   | Green Globe              | Midseason to late  | Good  | Will produce when grown as an annual; Gourmet Seed, Landreth's, Nichols Garden, Territorial Seed  |
|                    | Imperial Star            | Midseason to late  | Good  | Will produce when grown as an annual; Burpee, Johnny's, Landreth's, Peaceful Valley Farm, Territorial Seed  |
| <b>Asparagus</b>   | Super Male Jersey Knight | Early              | Good  | Plant shallow; winter mulching; Farmer Seed, Irish Eyes Garden Seeds, Johnny's, Jersey Asparagus Farms, Nichols Garden, Park Seed, Reimer Seeds, Territorial Seed |
| <b>Basil</b>       | Genovese                 | Early              |       | Bred especially for pesto; Burpee, Johnny's, Nichols Garden, Otis S. Twilley, Peaceful Valley †   |
|                    | Minette                  | Early              |       | Compact, very slow to bolt; Park Seed   |
|                    | Marseillais              | Early              |       | Bush type, very compact and uniform; Cook's Garden, Heritage Harvest, Richter's Herbs, Stokes   |
|                    | Purple Ruffles           | Midseason          |       | Burgundy-leaved basil; Burpee, Harris Seeds, Johnny's, Vesey's †  |
|                    | Sweet Dani               | Early              |       | Lemon basil, lemon flavor; Cook's Garden, Harris Seeds, Johnny's, Nichols Garden, Richter's Herbs †   |
| <b>Snap Beans*</b> | Contender                | Early              | High  | Good quality, good freezer; Alberta Nurseries, Denali Seed, Farmer Seed, Landreth's, Peaceful Valley †  |
|                    | Provider                 | Earliest           | High  | Good quality, good freezer; Denali Seed, Harris Seeds, Irish Eyes Garden Seeds, Johnny's, Seeds of Change †   |
|                    | Royalty Purple Pod       | Early              | High  | Does well in cool soils; Farmer Seed, Heirloom Seeds, Irish Eyes Garden Seeds, Landreth's, Peaceful Valley †  |
|                    | (Romano) Bountiful       | Early              | High  | Heirloom, good quality, stringless; Heirloom Seeds, Landreth's, Pinetree Garden, Seeds of Change †  |
|                    | Gina,                    | Early              | High  | Best of early Romano beans; Nichols Garden, Park Seed   |
|                    | Roma II                  | Intermediate       | High  | Italian type, flat; Harris Seeds, Park Seed, Seeds of Changes, Stokes †   |
|                    | Romano Gold              | Early              | Good  | Bush Romano wax, yellow; Reimer Seeds, Stokes, Territorial Seed   |
|                    | (yellow wax) Carson      | Early              | High  | Good quality, good freezer; Johnny's, Stokes, Territorial Seed  |
|                    | Goldito                  | Early              | High  | Smooth straight pods; Stokes, Vermont Bean Seed Co.   |
|                    | Rocdor                   | Early              | Good  | Reliable, early; Harris Seeds, Irish Eyes Garden Seeds, Johnny's, Nichols Garden, Park Seed, Stokes †   |
| <b>Beets</b>       | Burpee Golden            | Midseason          | Fair  | Yellow, round, high quality; Alberta Nurseries, Stokes, Victory Seed †  |
|                    | Chioggia                 | Early              | Good  | Heirloom, sweet flavor; Cook's Garden, Heirloom Seeds, Irish Eyes Garden Seeds, Nichols Garden, Peaceful Valley †   |
|                    | Cylindra                 | Midseason          | Good  | Heirloom, resists bolting, tender, sweet; Alberta Nurseries, Burpee, Heirloom Seeds, Nichols Garden, Peaceful Valley †  |
|                    | Detroit Dark Red         | Midseason          | Good  | Globe shaped; Burgess Seed, Burpee, Farmer Seed, Peaceful Valley †  |
|                    | Early Blood Turnip       | Early to midseason | High  | Heirloom, tendency to bolt; Heirloom Seeds  |
|                    | Red Ace                  | Early              | High  | Round, smooth, good greens; Harris Seeds, Pinetree Garden, Stokes, Vermont Bean Seed Co. †  |

| <b>Vegetable</b>        | <b>Variety</b>    | <b>Maturity</b>    | <b>Yield</b>                   | <b>Comments</b>  |
|-------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| <b>Broccoli</b>         | Early Dividend    | Early              | Good                           | Large; large lateral production; Reimer Seeds, Otis S. Twilley †   |
|                         | Marathon          | Late               | High                           | Large heads, cold tolerant, good Shogun substitute; Johnny's, Otis S. Twilley  |
|                         | Premium Crop      | Midseason          | High                           | Large lateral production; Harris Seeds, Pinetree Garden, Otis S. Twilley   |
| <b>Brussels Sprouts</b> | Jade Cross        | Early              | High                           | Very good, dependable; Alberta Nurseries, Nichols Garden, Pinetree Garden, Stokes  |
|                         | Oliver            | Early              | Good                           | Large, flavorful, easy to grow; Stokes   |
| <b>Cabbage</b>          | Deadon            | Late               | High                           | Hybrid, pinkish purple, slightly savoyed January King type; Johnny's, Otis S. Twilley                                      |
|                         | Dynamo            | Early to midseason | Good                           | Small head, dense; Eden Organic Nursery  |
|                         | Earliana Hybrid   | Early              | Fair                           | Small heads, good quality; Burpee, Reimer Seeds, R.H. Shumway's  |
|                         | Glory of Enkuizen | Midseason          | High                           | Heirloom, moose favorite; Heirloom Seeds, Victory Seed   |
|                         | Golden Acre       | Early              | Good                           | Solid heads, stores well; Alberta Nurseries, Denali Seed, Irish Eyes Garden Seeds †  |
|                         | January King      | Late               | High                           | Heirloom, pinkish purple, slightly savoyed, cold hardy; Heritage Harvest, Thompson & Morgan, Territorial Seed              |
|                         | O-S Cross         | Late               | High                           | Giant cabbage capability; Denali Seed, Gourmet Seeds, Pinetree Garden, Vesey's   |
|                         | Red Express       | Early to midseason | Good                           | Good, reliable, dense red cabbage; Irish Eyes Garden Seeds, Johnny's, Peaceful Valley, Reimer Seeds, R.H. Shumway's        |
|                         | Ruby Ball         | Midseason          | Fair                           | Red, small head; Territorial Seed, Thompson & Morgan   |
|                         | Ruby Perfection   | Late               | Good                           | Red, stores well; Horticulture Products, Johnny's, Nichols Garden †  |
|                         | Savoy Ace         | Midseason          | Good                           | Best savoy type; Pinetree Garden, Reimer Seeds, Otis S. Twilley  |
|                         | Savoy Express     | Early              | Good                           | All-America selection, excellent savoy; Irish Eyes Garden Seeds, Kitchen Garden Seeds, Reimer Seeds, Vermont Bean Seed Co. |
|                         | Stonehead         | Late               | Good                           | Small compact heads; Farmer Seed, Nichols Garden, Stokes, Vesey's, Vermont Bean Seed Co. †                                 |
| Tobia                   | Midseason         | High               | Hybrid, moose favorite; Stokes |  |
| <b>Carrots</b>          | Artist            | Midseason          | High                           | Smooth, 7–8" root; Johnny's  |
|                         | Little Finger     | Midseason          | High                           | 3½" root, smooth skin, small core; Alberta Nurseries, Denali Seed, Ferry-Morse, Peaceful Valley †                          |
|                         | Minicor           | Early              | High                           | Baby carrots, pull at 2–3"; Cook's Garden, Nichols Garden, Reimer Seeds, Stokes, Vesey's, Vermont Bean Seed Co.            |
|                         | Nelson            | Early              | High                           | High quality, smooth, 6–7" root; Johnny's, Park Seed, Territorial Seed   |
|                         | Purple Haze       | Midseason          | Fair                           | All-America selection, purple with orange core; Harris Seeds, Johnny's, Park Seed, Reimer Seeds †                          |
|                         | Royal Chantenay   | Late               | High                           | Storage type; Denali Seed, Harris Seeds, Reimer Seeds †  |
|                         | Scarlet Nantes    | Early              | High                           | Stores well, good quality; Denali Seed, Irish Eyes Garden Seeds, Harris Seeds, Park Seed, Peaceful Valley †                |
|                         | Sweet Treat       | Midseason          | Good                           | Very sweet and crunchy, hybrid; Burpee   |
|                         | Thumbelina        | Early              | Good                           | Small, round, gourmet type; Landreth's, Nichols Garden, Territorial Seed, Otis S. Twilley †                                |

| Vegetable           | Variety  | Maturity          | Yield      | Comments   |  |
|---------------------|--|-------------------|------------|--|--|
| <b>Cauliflower</b>  | Amazing  | Midseason         | High       | Holds up in garden; Johnny's, Park Seed, Horticulture Products, Territorial Seed †                                       |  |
|                     | Fremont  | Early             | High       | 7" across, self wrapping; Johnny's, Stokes, Vesey's  |  |
|                     | Minuteman  | Early             | High       | Nice wrapper leaves, self blanching; Pinetree Garden, Stokes, Vesey's  |  |
|                     | Snow Crown   | Early             | Good       | Good quality, dependable; Cook's Garden, Harris Seeds, Johnny's, Nichols Garden  |  |
|                     | White Sails  | Midseason to late | Very high  | Excellent; Stokes  |  |
| <b>Celery</b>       | Utah 52-70   | Midseason         | Very high  | Dependable, good quality; Burpee, Denali Seed, Peaceful Valley, Victory Seed †   |  |
|                     | Florida 683  | Midseason         | Very high  | Good quality; Stokes   |  |
| <b>Chives</b>       | <i>Nearly all varieties do well</i>  |                   |            |  |  |
| <b>Corn, Sweet*</b> | <i>Grow through clear or IRT plastic mulch</i>   |                   |            |  |  |
|                     | Earlivee   | Midseason         | High       | Best quality, nice ears; Burgess Seed, Farmer Seed, Irish Eyes Garden Seeds, R.H. Shumway's, Territorial Seed            |  |
|                     | Seneca Horizon   | Midseason to late | Good       | Excellent cold tolerance; Territorial Seed, Vesey's  |  |
|                     | Yukon Chief  | Early             | Fair       | Dependable for cool soils, open-pollinated; Denali Seed, Irish Eyes Garden   |  |
| <b>Cucumber*</b>    | <i>Grow through clear or IRT plastic mulch</i>   |                   |            |  |  |
|                     | (slicing)  | Early Pride       | Early      | High   | White spine; Burpee  |
|                     |  | Fanfare           | Early      | High   | Bush, white spine; Harris Seeds, Stokes, Thompson & Morgan, Vesey's †              |
|                     |  | Sweet Success     | Early      | High   | White spine; Burpees, Nichols Garden, Reimer Seeds, Vesey's †                      |
|                     |  | Sweeter Yet       | Very early | High   | 10–12", crisp fruit; Burpee, Burgess Seed, Nichols Garden, Pine-tree Garden        |
|                     |  | Salad Bush        | Early      | Good   | 8" long, smooth skin; Burpee, Farmer Seed, Harris Seeds, Kitchen Garden Seeds †    |
|                     | (pickling)   | Bush Pickle       | Early      | High   | Nice compact bushy plant; Park Seed, Reimer Seeds, Stokes, Vermont Bean Seed Co. † |
|                     |  | Little Leaf       | Early      | Good   | Good for pickling and fresh eating; Reimer Seeds, Vermont Bean Seed Co.            |
|                     |  | Northern Pickling | Early      | High   | Black spine; Johnny's, Reimer Seeds  |
| <b>Eggplant*</b>    | <i>Grow through clear or IRT plastic mulch, but all varieties marginal in the Interior</i> |                   |            |  |  |
|                     | Dusky  | Early             | Poor       | Compact plant, glossy black fruit; Pinetree Garden, Otis S. Twilley Co., Vesey's   |  |
|                     | Ichiban  | Early             | Poor       | Oriental, slender 12" fruit; Horticulture Products, Pinetree Garden, Reimer Seeds, R.H. Shumway's, Vermont Bean Seed Co. |  |
|                     | Orient Express   | Early             | Good       | Sets fruit in cool weather; Johnny's, Tomato Growers   |  |
|                     | Snowy  | Early             | Good       | White, slender fruit; Seeds of Change  |  |

| Vegetable  | Variety                             | Maturity          | Yield | Comments   |
|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------|-------|--|
| <b>Greens</b>  | Green Wave                          | Midseason         | Good  | Showy and hot mustard; Johnny's, Nichols Garden, Pinetree Garden, Territorial Seed, Victory Seed †             |
|  | Tendergreen                         | Midseason         | Good  | Good mustard; Nichols Garden, Peaceful Valley, Reimer Seeds, Victory Seed                                      |
|  | Chioggia Red Preco # 1<br>Radicchio | Early             | High  | Large, heavy heads, red<br>Johnny's  |
|  | Komatsuna Summerfest                | Early             | Good  | Mild, oriental greens, heat and disease tolerant; Johnny's, Nichols Garden †                                   |
|  | Vates Collards                      | Late              | Good  | Good quality; Denali Seed, Heirloom Seeds, Pinetree Garden †   |
| <b>Kale</b>  | <i>Nearly all kinds do well</i>     |                   |       |  |
|  | Red Russian                         | Early             | High  | Heirloom, 25 days, baby; Burpee, Denali Seed, Heirloom Seeds, Peaceful Valley †                                |
|  | Toscano                             | Midseason         | Good  | Mild flavor, 30 days, baby; Johnny's, J.L. Hudson  |
|  | Winterbor                           | Early             | High  | Sweet after frosts; Cook's Garden, Johnny's, Kitchen Garden Seeds, Park Seed, Stokes †                         |
| <b>Kohlrabi</b>  | Early Purple Vienna                 | Early             | High  | Heirloom variety; Heirloom Seeds, Irish Eyes Garden Seeds †  |
|  | Early White Vienna                  | Early             | High  | Heirloom variety; Burpee, Irish Eyes Garden Seeds †  |
|  | Eder                                | Very early        | High  | White, tender; Johnny's  |
|  | Grand Duke                          | Early             | High  | Very nice, earliest; Burgess Seed, Farmer Seed, Nichols Garden, Otis S. Twilley †                              |
|  | Kolibri                             | Early             | High  | Excellent, purple skinned; Johnny's, Pinetree Garden, Reimer Seeds, Thompson & Morgan, Territorial Seed        |
| <b>Leeks</b>   | Baby Lincoln                        | Midseason to late | High  | Harvest finger size for baby leeks; Johnny's, Kitchen Garden Seeds, Nichols Garden, Park Seed, Pinetree Garden |
|  | Giant Musselburgh                   | Late              | High  | Heirloom variety, high yield; Heirloom Seeds, Thompson & Morgan †  |
|  | King Richard                        | Late              | High  | Nice long neck; Cook's Garden, Johnny's, Reimer Seeds, Thompson & Morgan                                       |
|  | Poncho                              | Late              | Good  | Good quality, cold tolerant; Seeds of Change   |
| <b>Lettuce (head)</b><br><br>(butterhead)<br><br>(Romaine) | Crispino                            | Early             | High  | Medium-size firm heads; Johnny's   |
|  | Ithaca                              | Midseason         | Good  | Good quality and flavor, reliable; Denali Seed, Harris Seeds, Reimer Seeds, Otis S. Twilley                    |
|  | Minigreen                           | Early             | Good  | Good quality and flavor, short core; Thompson & Morgan   |
|  | Buttercrunch                        | Midseason         | Good  | All-America Selection; Burpee, Denali Seed, Park Seed, Reimer Seeds †  |
|  | Ermosa                              | Midseason         | Good  | Tolerant to tipburn and bolting; Johnny's  |
|  | Sangria                             | Midseason         | Good  | Red-tipped, good quality, tolerant to bolting; Vesey's   |
|  | Cimmaron Red                        | Midseason         | Good  | Rarely bolts, good flavor, crisp; Harris Seeds, Irish Eyes Garden Seeds, Pinetree Garden †                     |
|  | Eruption                            | Midseason         | Good  | Dark red, bibb-romaine cross; Vesey's  |
|  | Parris Island Cos                   | Midseason         | High  | Heirloom, high quality, dependable; Denali Seed, Peaceful Valley, Vesey's †                                    |
|  | Romulus                             | Midseason         | Good  | 9–12" heads, crisp; Territorial Seed   |



| Vegetable      | Variety                             | Maturity  | Yield   | Comments  |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|---------|---|
| (looseleaf)    | Grand Rapids                        | Midseason | Good    | Fair quality; Alberta Nurseries, Denali Seed, Ferry-Morse, Stokes   |
|                | Merlot                              | Midseason | Good    | Intense deep burgundy; Nichols Garden, Seeds of Change  |
|                | Oak Leaf                            | Early     | Good    | Very nice quality and appearance; Pinetree Garden, Richter's Herbs, Reimer Seeds, Vermont Bean Seed Co.                                     |
|                | Red Sails                           | Early     | Good    | All-America selection, compact heads; Burpee, Johnny's, Landreth's, Nichols Garden, Park Seed †   |
|                | Red Salad Bowl                      | Early     | Good    | Good quality, bolt resistant; Cook's Garden, Harris Seeds, Kitchen Garden Seeds †   |
|                | Royal Oak Leaf                      | Early     | Good    | Excellent; Cook's Garden, Harris Seeds, Landreth's, Nichols Garden †  |
|                | Ruby                                | Midseason | Good    | Red, good quality; Denali Seed  |
|                | Salad Bowl                          | Early     | High    | Excellent, bolt resistant; Denali Seed, Cook's Garden, Harris Seeds, Peaceful Valley †  |
| <b>Onion</b>   |                                     |           |         |   |
| (bunching)     | He-shi-ko                           | Midseason | Fair    | Good quality; Denali Seed, Reimer Seeds, Vermont Bean Seed Co.  |
|                | Evergreen Hardy White               | Midseason | Fair    | Good quality; Denali Seed, Farmer Seed, Johnny's, Nichols Garden, R.H. Shumway's, Otis. S. Twilley  |
| (sets)         | <i>Nearly all varieties do well</i> |           |         |   |
| <b>Parsley</b> |                                     |           |         |   |
|                | Green River                         | Midseason | High    | Prolific bushy plant, curly leaves; Richter's Herbs   |
|                | Italian                             | Midseason | High    | Large mounds, very productive; Burpee, Harris Seeds, Peaceful Valley, Richter's Herbs, Vesey's †  |
|                | Moss Curled                         | Midseason | High    | Grown in Alaska since early 1900s; Farmer Seed, Irish Eyes Garden Seeds, Stokes, Vermont Bean Seed Co. †                                    |
| <b>Parsnip</b> |                                     |           |         |   |
|                | Hollow Crown, Improved              | Late      | Good    | Good quality, most dependable; Alberta Nurseries, Burpee, Denali Seed, Heirloom Seeds, Pinetree Garden, Reimer Seeds, Vermont Bean Seed Co. |
| <b>Peas</b>    |                                     |           |         |   |
|                | Dwarf Grey Sugar                    | Early     | Good    | Edible podded, dependable; Denali Seed, Farmer Seed, Johnny's †   |
|                | Freezonian                          | Late      | High    | Indeterminate type, good quality; Denali Seed, Farmer Seed, Landreth's, Victory Seed  |
|                | Green Arrow                         | Late      | Highest | Outstanding quality, long pods; Denali Seed, Farmer Seed, Harris Seeds, Vesey's †   |
|                | Lincoln                             | Midseason | High    | Heirloom, good quality, small, sweet; Cook's Garden, Farmer Seed, Irish Eyes Garden Seeds, Victory Seed †                                   |
|                | Maestro                             | Early     | High    | First early Green Arrow type; Burpee, Irish Eyes Garden Seeds, R.H. Shumway's, Park Seed †  |
|                | Mr. Big                             | Midseason | Good    | All-America selection; Burpee, Cook's Garden, Farmer Seed, Vermont Bean Seed Co. †  |
|                | Oregon Giant                        | Early     | Good    | Edible podded; Cook's Garden, Irish Eyes Garden Seeds, Johnny's, Stokes †   |
|                | Oregon Sugarpod II                  | Early     | Good    | Edible podded, excellent snow pea; Burpee, Farmer Seed, Peaceful Valley †   |
|                | Snow Green                          | Midseason | Good    | Crisp and flavorful pods; Thompson & Morgan   |

| Vegetable       | Variety  | Maturity           | Yield | Comments  |
|-----------------|--|--------------------|-------|---|
|                 | Sugar Ann                                      | Early              | Good  | Edible podded, like snap bean; Denali Seed, Johnny's, Landreths, Kitchen Garden Seeds †   |
|                 | Sugar Snap                                     | Midseason          | Good  | Edible podded, like snap bean; Alberta Nurseries, Burpee, Cook's Garden †   |
|                 | Sugar Sprint Snap                              | Early              | Good  | Sweet, almost stringless; Cook's Garden, Nichols Garden, Vesey's †  |
|                 | Super Sugar Snap                               | Early              | Good  | Shorter-vined version of Sugar Snap; Burpee, Harris Seeds, Johnny's †   |
|                 | Survivor                                       | Midseason          | High  | Semileafless, Novella type; Otis S. Twilley   |
| <b>Peppers</b>  | <i>Grow through clear or IRT plastic mulch</i> |                    |       |   |
| (sweet)         | Blushing Beauty                                | Midseason          | Good  | All-America selection, sweet bell; Kitchen Garden Seeds, Tomato Growers, Vesey's †  |
|                 | Carmen   | Midseason          | Good  | All-America selection, sweet Italian, bull's horn type; Johnny's, Harris Seeds, R.H. Shumway's, Vesey's †                             |
|                 | Giant Marconi                                  | Midseason          | Good  | All-America selection, extra sweet; Burpee, Harris Seeds, Pinetree Garden, Tomato Growers †   |
|                 | Gypsy  | Early              | Good  | Pointed, yellow; Burpee, Nichols Garden, Tomato Growers, Territorial Seed †   |
|                 | Italian Sweet                                  | Early to midseason | High  | Italian sweet type; Irish Eyes Garden Seeds, Reimer Seeds, Territorial Seed   |
|                 | Mohawk   | Midseason          | Good  | Green to yellow bell for containers; Park Seed, Tomato Growers, Totally Tomatoes  |
|                 | New Ace  | Early              | High  | Sets fruit well in cool weather, sweet bell, excellent for the Interior; Alberta Nurseries, Harris Seeds, Johnny's, Pinetree Garden † |
|                 | Park's Early Thickset                          | Midseason          | High  | Good quality; Park Seed   |
|                 | Redskin  | Midseason          | Good  | Green to red bell for containers; Park Seed   |
| (hot)           | Hungarian Yellow Wax                           | Midseason          | Good  | Hot yellow; Alberta Nurseries, Burpee, Irish Eyes Garden Seeds, Totally Tomatoes †  |
|                 | Thai Hot                                       | Early              | High  | Excellent quality; Cook's Garden, Harris Seeds, Park Seed, Tomato Growers †   |
|                 | Senorita                                       | Midseason          | Good  | Mild jalapeno; Harris Seeds, Tomato Growers   |
|                 | Super Chili                                    | Midseason          | Low   | Very hot; Tomato Growers, Thompson & Morgan, Totally Tomatoes, Otis S. Twilley  |
|                 | Super Cayenne                                  | Midseason          | Low   | All-America selection, incredibly hot; Kitchen Garden Seeds   |
| <b>Potato**</b> | AK 114   | Late               | High  | Good quality, even size, tough skin   |
|                 | Alaska Red                                     | Early              | High  | Red, tender skin  |
|                 | Bake-King                                      | Midseason          | High  | Good quality, baking  |
|                 | Green Mountain                                 | Late               | High  | Good quality  |
|                 | Kennebec                                       | Early              | High  | Tender skin   |
|                 | Norgold Russet                                 | Late               | High  | Good quality, attractive  |
|                 | Rote Erstling                                  | Early              | Good  | Red, tough skin, yellow flesh, good quality   |
|                 | Swedish  | Late               | Low   | Home garden type  |

| Vegetable       | Variety  | Maturity          | Yield | Comments  |
|-----------------|--|-------------------|-------|---|
| <b>Pumpkin*</b> | <i>Grow through clear or IRT plastic mulch (use transplants 4–5 weeks old)</i> |                   |       |   |
|                 | Connecticut Field  | Midseason to late | High  | Heirloom, large; Alberta Nurseries, Farmer Seed, R.H. Shumway's, Victory Seed †   |
|                 | New England Pie  | Midseason         | Good  | Heirloom, small, good baking quality; Cook's Garden, Denali Seed, Heirloom Seeds, Johnny's, Peaceful Valley, R.H. Shumway's † |
|                 | Racer  | Midseason to late | High  | Vigorous, short vine; Johnny's  |
|                 | Rock Star  | Late              | High  | Excellent large fruit, consistent high yields; Johnny's   |
|                 | Sorcerer   | Late              | High  | All-America selection, compact vine; Harris Seeds, Nichols Garden, Stokes, Otis S. Twilley, Vermont Bean Seed Co.             |
|                 | Wee-B-Little   | Late              | High  | Very small, ornamental; Irish Eyes Garden Seeds, Johnny's, Pine-tree Garden †   |
|                 | Lumina   | Midseason to late | Good  | Medium size, white skin; Burgess Seed, Harris Seeds, Pinetree Garden, Reimer Seeds †  |
| <b>Radish</b>   | Burpee White   | Midseason         | High  | Holds longest without bolting; Burpee   |
|                 | Cherry Belle   | Early             | Good  | Very good keeping quality; Burpee, Denali Seed, Landreth's, Peaceful Valley †   |
|                 | Cherriette   | Early             | Good  | Good shape and color; Harris Seeds, Johnny's, Park Seed, Reimer Seeds, Stokes, Otis S. Twilley                                |
|                 | Discovery  | Midseason to late | Good  | Daikon, long white root; Johnny's   |
|                 | Easter Egg   | Early             | High  | Mix of red, purple and white; Alberta Nurseries, Farmer Seed, Johnny's, Nichols Garden †                                      |
|                 | Mino Spring  | Midseason         | Good  | Slow bolting, Daikon cross; Gourmet Seeds   |
|                 | Miyashige  | Midseason         | Good  | Daikon, long white root; Johnny's   |
|                 | Scarlet Globe  | Early             | Good  | Holds better than Cherry Belle; Denali Seed, Gourmet Seeds, Heirloom Seeds, Landreth's †                                      |
|                 | White Icicle   | Late              | Fair  | Long 5" icicle-shaped root; Denali Seed, Harris Seeds, Irish Eyes Garden Seeds, Peaceful Valley, Stokes †                     |
| <b>Rhubarb</b>  | <i>Perennial plant, comes back every year</i>                                  |                   |       |   |
|                 | Canada Red   | Early             | High  | High quality; R.H. Shumway's, Vermont Bean Seed Co.   |
|                 | McDonald   | Early             | High  | High quality; Cook's Garden   |
| <b>Rutabaga</b> | American Purple Top  | Midseason         | High  | Heirloom, good storage, sweet; Denali Seed, Irish Eyes Garden Seeds, Harris Seeds, Landreth's, Reimer Seeds †                 |
|                 | Laurentian   | Midseason         | High  | Heirloom, purple top, sweet, mild; Johnny's, Reimer Seeds, Stokes, Vesey's  |
|                 | Joan   | Midseason         | High  | Heirloom, sweet flavor; Irish Eyes Garden Seeds, Seeds of Change  |
| <b>Spinach</b>  | Melody   | Early             | High  | Plant early, excellent quality, most bolt resistant; Burgess Seed, Farmer Seed, Harris Seeds, Reimer Seeds †                  |
|                 | Tyee   | Early             | High  | Good variety for Fairbanks; Ferry-Morse, Harris Seeds, Irish Eyes Garden Seeds, Johnny's, Territorial Seed †                  |
| <b>Squash*</b>  | <i>Grow through clear or IRT plastic mulch</i>                                 |                   |       |   |
| (summer)        | Early Prolific   | Early             | High  | Yellow, straight neck; Ferry-Morse, Gourmet Seeds, Peaceful Valley, Reimer Seeds †  |



| Vegetable          | Variety             | Maturity  | Yield | Comments   |
|--------------------|---------------------|-----------|-------|--|
|                    | Eight Ball          | Midseason | High  | Harvest at golf ball size; Harris Seeds, Johnny's, Park Seed, Pinetree Garden †                        |
|                    | Goldrush            | Early     | High  | Striking yellow zucchini; Alberta Nurseries, Cook's Garden, Ferry-Morse †                              |
|                    | Greyzini            | Early     | High  | Striped, nice flavor; Gourmet Seeds, Nichols Garden, Pinetree Garden                                   |
|                    | Magda               | Early     | High  | Mediterranean type, more intense flavor; Park Seed   |
|                    | Milano Black        | Early     | High  | Dark skinned zucchini; Kitchen Garden Seeds  |
|                    | One Ball            | Early     | High  | Ball shape, harvest golf ball size; Territorial Seed   |
|                    | Papaya Pear         | Midseason | Good  | Papaya shape, sweet, mild flavor; Nichols Garden, Stokes   |
|                    | Peter Pan           | Early     | High  | All-America selection, green scallop; Burpee, Harris Seeds, Nichols Garden, Otis S. Twilley †          |
|                    | Radiant             | Early     | High  | Dark skinned zucchini; Stokes  |
|                    | Raven               | Early     | High  | Dark skinned zucchini; Johnny's, Park Seed   |
|                    | Seneca Prolific     | Midseason | Fair  | Yellow, straight neck, <i>Botrytis</i> resistant; Reimer Seeds, Otis S. Twilley                        |
|                    | Sunburst            | Early     | High  | Bright yellow scallop; Cook's Garden, Gourmet Seeds, Harris Seeds, Johnny's †                          |
|                    | Sundance            | Midseason | High  | Yellow crookneck; Cook's Garden, Pinetree Garden, Reimer Seeds, Otis S. Twilley                        |
|                    | Super Zuke Hybrid   | Midseason | High  | Bush-type plant, nutty flavor; Burpee  |
| (winter)           | Ambercup            | Midseason | High  | Bright orange buttercups; Farmer Seed, Vesey's, Vermont Bean Seed Co.                                  |
|                    | Bon Bon             | Late      | High  | All-America selection, sweet; Johnny's, Nichols Garden, Park Seed, Stokes, Otis S. Twilley †           |
|                    | Buttercup           | Midseason | High  | Dark green, excellent quality; Heirloom Seeds, Johnny's, Seeds of Change, Stokes †                     |
|                    | Gold Nugget         | Early     | Good  | Good quality, dependable, small; Irish Eyes Garden Seeds, Territorial Seed                             |
|                    | Golden Hubbard      | Late      | High  | Quality bush type, small size; Farmer Seed, Reimer Seeds, Stokes, Victory Seed Co.                     |
|                    | Pink Banana         | Late      | High  | Large, elongate; Irish Eyes Garden Seeds, Pinetree Garden, Territorial Seed †                          |
|                    | Spaghetti Squash    | Midseason | Good  | Yellow, spaghetti-like flesh; Harris Seeds, Johnny's, Nichols Garden, Peaceful Valley †                |
|                    | Sunshine            | Late      | Good  | Bright orange, sweet, earthy flavor; Harris Seeds, Johnny's, Nichols Garden, Park Seed, Reimer Seeds † |
|                    | Sweet Mama          | Early     | High  | Good quality; Pinetree Valley, Reimer Seeds, Vesey's †   |
|                    | Tivoli              | Midseason | Good  | Spaghetti squash, dependable; Stokes, Otis S. Twilley  |
| <b>Swiss Chard</b> | Bright Lights Chard | Midseason | Good  | All-America selection, multicolored; Burpee, Cook's Garden, Park Seed †                                |
|                    | Neon Lights Chard   | Midseason | High  | Blend of five varieties, multicolored; Burpee  |
|                    | Rhubarb Chard       | Midseason | Good  | Very attractive, smaller than white; Burpee, Ferry-Morse, Harris Seeds, Johnny's †                     |
|                    | Silverado Chard     | Midseason | High  | Compact plant, slow to bolt; Reimer Seeds, Seeds of Change, Stokes, Vesey's                            |

| Vegetable       | Variety   | Maturity          | Yield     | Comments   |
|-----------------|---|-------------------|-----------|--|
| Thyme           | Magic Carpet  |                   |           | Lemon thyme, lowest growing; Nichols Garden, Reimer Seeds, Territorial Seed  |
|                 | Purple Carpet   |                   |           | Lemon thyme, creeping, low; Reimer Seeds   |
| Tomatillo       | Toma Verde  | Midseason to late | High      | Great for salsa, 2" fruits; Burpee, Johnny's, Reimer Seeds, Tomato Growers †   |
| <b>Tomato</b>   | <i>Best results when grown through clear or IRT plastic mulch</i> |                   |           |  |
| (determinate)   | Bush Early Girl   | Early             | Excellent | Early, medium sized; Harris Seeds, Tomato Growers, Totally Tomatoes †  |
|                 | Gold Nugget   | Early             | Good      | Cherry; Irish Eyes Garden Seeds, Nichols Garden, Pinetree Garden, Tomato Growers †                                       |
|                 | Prairie Fire  | Early             | Good      | Best large outdoor tomato for Interior; Irish Eyes Garden Seeds, Tomato Growers  |
|                 | Red Robin   | Early             | Good      | Small ½" fruit, prolific; Horticulture Products, Reimer Seeds, Tomato Growers  |
|                 | Taxi  | Early             | Good      | Large yellow fruit; Johnny's, Pinetree Garden, Territorial Seed, Totally Tomatoes  |
| (indeterminate) | Black plum  | Early             | Good      | Small prolific purple fruit; Tomato Growers, Totally Tomatoes  |
|                 | Early Tanana <sup>1</sup>   | Early             | Good      | Ripens well when picked green; Denali Seed   |
|                 | Juliet  | Early             | Good      | Sweet red cherry, crack resistant, All-America selection; Farmer Seed, Harris Seeds, Johnny's, Stokes †                  |
|                 | Lemon Boy   | Early             | Good      | Large yellow fruit; Nichols Garden, Horticulture Products, Tomato Growers †  |
|                 | Stupice   | Early             | High      | Heirloom, small, very early; Cook's Garden, Irish Eyes Garden Seeds, Peaceful Valley, Tomato Growers, Totally Tomatoes † |
|                 | Sub Arctic 25   | Early             | Good      | Small fruits; Denali Seed  |
|                 | Sub Arctic Maxi   | Very early        | Good      | Largest fruit for subarctic type; Alberta Nurseries, Stokes, Tomato Growers  |
| Turnip          | Tokyo Cross   | Early             | High      | Nice small white turnip, high quality; Burpee, Pinetree Valley, Reimer Seeds, Otis S. Twilley, Vermont Bean Seed Co.     |
|                 | Hakurei   | Midseason         | High      | Fruity-sweet taste, holds well; Farmer Seed, Johnny's, Park Seed   |
|                 | Purple Top White Globe  | Late              | Heavy     | Good for storage; Alberta Nurseries, Denali Seed, Johnny's, Peaceful Valley, Otis S. Twilley, Victory Seed †             |

## Greenhouse Vegetables

| Vegetable       | Variety  | Maturity | Yield | Comments  |
|-----------------|--|----------|-------|---|
| <b>Cucumber</b> | <i>All are long European type and are gynoeocious (having only female flowers and no seeds).</i> |          |       |   |
|                 | Carmen   | Early    | High  | Good quality; Stokes, Vesey's                         |
|                 | Corona   | Early    | High  | Consistent, good keeper; Stokes                       |
| Tomato          | Caruso-Re  | Early    | High  | Good quality; Tomato Growers                          |
|                 | Sweet 100  | Early    | High  | Good quality; Burpee, Cook's Garden, Tomato Growers † |

## Fruit Varieties

Some fruit varieties may only survive in the more favorable sites. Carefully selecting a growing site, observing successful gardeners, and testing trials with several varieties will increase fruit growing success. Your local nursery is a good source for recommended varieties.

| Fruit              | Variety                     | Maturity           | Yield | Comments   |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|-------|--|
| <b>Apple</b>       | Heyer No. 12                | Late               | Fair  | Marginally hardy   |
|                    | Parkland                    | Late               | Good  | Marginally hardy   |
|                    | Westland                    | Late               | Good  | Marginally hardy   |
|                    | Nor-series (10)             | Late               | Good  | Marginally hardy   |
|                    | Golden Uralian              | Late               | Good  | Marginally hardy   |
| <b>Apple, Crab</b> | Rescue                      | Late               | Fair  | Marginally hardy   |
|                    | Adam                        |                    |       | Marginally hardy   |
|                    | Sylvia                      |                    |       | Marginally hardy   |
|                    | Jacques                     |                    |       | Marginally hardy   |
|                    | Columbia                    | Late               | Fair  | Marginally hardy   |
| <b>Currant</b>     | Holland Longbunch           | Late               | High  | Hardy in higher elevations   |
|                    | Red Lake                    | Late               | Good  | Hardy in higher elevations; Alberta Nurseries, Burgess Seed, R.H. Shumway's                |
|                    | Wilder                      | Late               | Good  | Hardy, mildew resistant; Peaceful Valley   |
| <b>Gooseberry</b>  | Pixwell                     | Late               | Good  | Hardest, for higher elevations; Alberta Nurseries, Burgess Seed, R.H. Shumway's            |
| <b>Raspberry</b>   | Latham                      | Late               | Good  | Good quality; Burgess Seed, Farmer Seed, R.H. Shumway's, Vermont Bean Seed Co.             |
|                    | Boyne                       | Late               | Good  | Good quality; Alberta Nurseries, Farmer Seed; Alberta Nurseries, Farmer Seed               |
|                    | Kiska <sup>†</sup>          | Early              | Good  | Most hardy   |
|                    | Red Mammoth                 | Midseason to late  | High  | Short plant, large fruit, sweet taste  |
| <b>Saskatoon</b>   | Martin                      | Midseason          | High  | Large fruit, plant with Smoky for X pollination  |
|                    | Smoky                       | Midseason          | High  | Best flavor, plant with Martin for X pollination   |
| <b>Strawberry</b>  | Alaska Pioneer <sup>†</sup> | Early              | High  | Hardy, yield is high when well fertilized and watered                                      |
|                    | Quinault                    | Midseason to frost | High  | Grow as an annual through clear or IRT plastic mulch; Burgess Seed, Farmer Seed, Park Seed |
|                    | Toklat <sup>†</sup>         | Midseason          | High  | Hardy, larger fruit than Alaska Pioneer  |

<sup>†</sup> Developed at the Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station, University of Alaska Fairbanks.

† More seed sources for this variety. Please check the "Seed Sources" page for other seed companies.

\* Crops for production through clear or IRT plastic mulch. Warm season crops will benefit by planting them through a clear or wavelength selective plastic mulch. The plastic hastens soil warm-up by allowing the sun's rays to penetrate the soil and preventing heat from being dissipated by the wind. Caution is required, however, since most seedlings sunburn if not released from beneath the plastic as soon as they emerge from the soil. Sweet corn may remain under the plastic until 4 to 6 inches tall before being released. Transplants may be planted under plastic by cutting an X or by making a hole through the plastic with a bulb planter.

\*\* Potato sources: Always use certified disease-free seed purchased locally in Alaska. This will keep out diseases from the Lower 48 have not yet entered Alaska.

## Seed Sources

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Alberta Nurseries & Seeds Ltd.      | P.O. Box 446, Bowden, Alberta T0M 0K0, Canada; <a href="http://www.gardenersweb.ca">www.gardenersweb.ca</a>                    |
| Burgess Seed and Plant Co.          | 905 Four Seasons Rd., Bloomington IL 61701; <a href="http://www.eburgess.com">www.eburgess.com</a>                             |
| W. Atlee Burpee & Co.               | 300 Park Ave., Warminster, PA 18974; <a href="http://www.burpee.com">www.burpee.com</a>  |
| Cook's Garden                       | P.O. Box C5030, Warminster, PA 18974; <a href="http://www.cooksgarden.com">www.cooksgarden.com</a>                             |
| Denali Seed Co.                     | P.O. Box 111425, Anchorage, AK 99511-1425; <a href="http://www.denaliseed.com">www.denaliseed.com</a>                          |
| Eden Organic Nursery Services, Inc. | P.O. Box 4604, Hallandale, FL 33008; <a href="http://www.eonseed.com">www.eonseed.com</a>                                      |
| Farmer Seed & Nursery Co.           | 818 NW 4th Street, Faribault, MN 55021; <a href="http://www.farmerseed.com">www.farmerseed.com</a>                             |
| Ferry-Morse Seed Co.                | 601 Stephen Beale Dr., Fulton, KY 42041; <a href="http://www.ferry-morse.com">www.ferry-morse.com</a>                          |
| Irish Eyes Garden City Seeds        | 5045 Robinson Canyon Rd., Ellensburg, WA 98926; <a href="http://www.irisheyesgardenseeds.com">www.irisheyesgardenseeds.com</a> |
| Gourmet Seeds International, LLC    | HC 12 Box 510, Tatum, NM 88267; <a href="http://www.gourmetseed.com">www.gourmetseed.com</a>                                   |
| Harris Seeds Co.                    | P.O. Box 24966, Rochester, NY 14624-0966; <a href="http://www.harrisseed.com">www.harrisseed.com</a>                           |
| Heirloom Seeds                      | 287 E. Finley Dr., West Finley, PA 15377; <a href="http://www.heirloomseeds.com">www.heirloomseeds.com</a>                     |
| Heritage Harvest Seed               | Box 40, RR 3, Carman, Manitoba R0G 0J0; <a href="http://www.heritageharvestseed.com">www.heritageharvestseed.com</a>           |
| Horticultural Products & Services   | 334 W. Stroud St., Randolph, WI 53956; <a href="http://www.hpsseed.com">www.hpsseed.com</a>                                    |
| Johnny's Selected Seeds             | 955 Benton Ave. Winslow, ME 04901 ; <a href="http://www.johnnyseeds.com">www.johnnyseeds.com</a>                               |
| Jersey Asparagus Farms              | 105 Porchtown Rd., Pittsgrove, NJ 08318; <a href="http://www.jerseyasparagus.com">www.jerseyasparagus.com</a>                  |
| J.L. Hudson, Seedsman               | Box 337, La Honda, CA 94020; <a href="http://www.jlHUDSONSEEDS.NET">www.jlHUDSONSEEDS.NET</a>                                  |
| Kitchen Garden Seeds                | P.O. Box 638, Bantam, CT 06750, <a href="http://www.kitchengardenseeds.com">www.kitchengardenseeds.com</a>                     |
| Landreth's                          | 60 E. High St., #4, New Freedom, PA 17349; <a href="http://www.landrethseeds.com">www.landrethseeds.com</a>                    |
| Nichols Garden Nursery              | 1190 Old Salem Road NE, Albany OR 97321-4580; <a href="http://www.nicholsgardennursery.com">www.nicholsgardennursery.com</a>   |
| Park Seed Co.                       | 1 Parkton Ave. Greenwood, SC 29647; <a href="http://www.parkseed.com">www.parkseed.com</a>                                     |
| Pinetree Garden Seeds               | P.O. Box 300, New Gloucester ME 04260; <a href="http://www.superseeds.com">www.superseeds.com</a>                              |
| Reimer Seeds                        | P.O. Box 236, Mount Holly, NC 28120, <a href="http://www.reimerseeds.com">www.reimerseeds.com</a>                              |
| R.H. Shumway's                      | 334 W. Stroud St., Ste 1, Randolph, WI 53956; <a href="http://www.rhshumway.com">www.rhshumway.com</a>                         |
| Richter's Herbs                     | Goodwood, Ontario LOC 1A0, Canada; <a href="http://www.richters.com">www.richters.com</a>                                      |
| Seeds of Change                     | c/o Marketing Concepts, P.O. Box 152 Spicer, MN 56288; <a href="http://www.seedsofchange.com">www.seedsofchange.com</a>        |
| Stokes Seeds Inc.                   | P.O. Box 548, Buffalo, NY 14240-0548; <a href="http://www.stokeseeds.com">www.stokeseeds.com</a>                               |
| Tomato Growers                      | P.O. Box 60015, Fort Myers, FL 33906; <a href="http://www.tomatogrowers.com">www.tomatogrowers.com</a>                         |
| Thompson & Morgan                   | P.O. Box 4086, Lawrenceburg, IN 47025; <a href="http://www.tmseeds.com">www.tmseeds.com</a>                                    |
| Territorial Seed Co.                | P.O. Box 158, Cottage Grove, OR 97424-0061; <a href="http://www.territorialseed.com">www.territorialseed.com</a>               |
| Totally Tomatoes                    | 334 W. Stroud St., Randolph, WI 53956; <a href="http://www.totallytomato.com">www.totallytomato.com</a>                        |
| Otis S. Twilley Seed Co., Inc.      | 121 Gary Rd., Hodges, SC 29653; <a href="http://www.twilleyseed.com">www.twilleyseed.com</a>                                   |
| Vermont Bean Seed Co.               | 334 West Stroud St., Randolph, WI 53956-1274; <a href="http://www.vermontbean.com">www.vermontbean.com</a>                     |
| Vesey's Seeds                       | P.O. Box 9000, Calais, ME, 04619-602; <a href="http://www.veseys.com">www.veseys.com</a>                                       |
| Victory Seed Company                | P.O. Box 192, Molalla, OR 97038; <a href="http://www.victoryseeds.com">www.victoryseeds.com</a>                                |

*To simplify information, trade names of products have been used. No endorsement of named products by the University of Alaska Fairbanks Cooperative Extension Service is intended, nor is criticism implied of similar products that are not mentioned.*

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