



PHS Community Gardens

Variety Guide: Fall 2026

Fall Reminders

Harden Off Seedlings

Seedlings are typically raised in optimal greenhouse conditions before they reach you. "Hardening off" helps prevent transplant shock, which can result in reduced vigor or even plant death. To harden off your seedlings, gradually acclimate them to the outdoors by placing them in a semi-sheltered area for a few days. This will help them adjust to environmental factors such as direct sunlight, wind, and temperature and moisture fluctuations. If possible, transplant on a cloudy day or in the evening to help ease the transition.

Harlequin Pressure

As soon as you plant your brassicas, be sure to cover them with light row covers or insect netting to protect them from harlequin bug damage. For extra protection, consider spraying seedlings with a preventative pest management solution before planting. Additionally, inspect your late summer brassicas regularly for pest infestations. If you're gardening on a small scale, we recommend handpicking pests or using a dust buster to remove adult bugs. Be sure to check the undersides of leaves for egg sacs, and remember to squish them to prevent further damage.



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Alliums



Scallions: Evergreen Hardy White

- Days to maturity: 68
- A classic Italian variety with authentic flavor and appearance with large, dark green leaves about 3 inches long.
- Tall and relatively slow to bolt.

Herbs



Fennel: Preludio

- Days to maturity: 50 baby, 80 full-size
- Large, thick, rounded bulbs.
- Crisp and flavorful with a nice anise flavor.
- Suitable for late summer and early fall harvest in most areas.

Cole Crops



Bok Choy: Black Summer

- Days to maturity: 45
- F-1 Hybrid
- Broad, flat, light green petioles are topped with oval, dark green leaves.
- Best for full size, but also suitable for mini heads.
- Very slow bolting.



Broccoli: Emerald Crown

- Days to maturity: 59
- Large, well-domed heads with fine bead and short stem on a small plant. Best for crown cut.
- Resists purpling in cold weather, which makes Emerald Crown an excellent choice for fall crops.



Cabbage: Ruby Perfection

- Days to maturity: 85
- The #1 mid-late red cabbage.
- The heads are medium-size and dense with a uniform high-round shape and good wrapper leaves.
- Good field-holding ability.
- Matures just in time for late summer crops or fall harvest for medium-term storage.



Cabbage: Alcosa

- Days to maturity: 72
- F-1 Hybrid
- Early savoyed cabbage.
- Round, 2-4 lb. deep blue-green, crinkled heads. Alcosa's well-packed, thin, yellow interior leaves quickly fill in, making it a smart choice for closely spaced plantings of mini cabbages.
- Flavor improves with cold weather. Best in cooked dishes. Intermediate resistance to downy mildew.



Cabbage: Primo Vantage

- Days to maturity: 73
- F-1 Hybrid
- Mid-early with great flavor.
- Heads avg. 4–4 1/2 lb., have a very short core, and are very juicy, tender, and sweet. Holds well in the field.



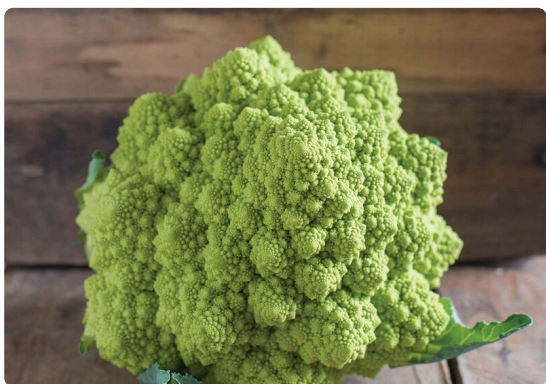
Napa Cabbage: Minuet

- Days to maturity: 48
- Best mini variety. Space 12" apart for high yields of upright, dense heads.
- 9" tall heads with dark green outer leaves and an attractive yellow interior.
- Light, sweet taste. Slow to bolt. High resistance to downy mildew. Tolerant to bottom rot and black speck.



Cauliflower: Synergy

- Days to maturity: 60
- Adaptable midseason variety.
- Large, sturdy plants produce big, well-domed heads.
- Performs exceptionally well in fall trials and is also suitable for spring production.



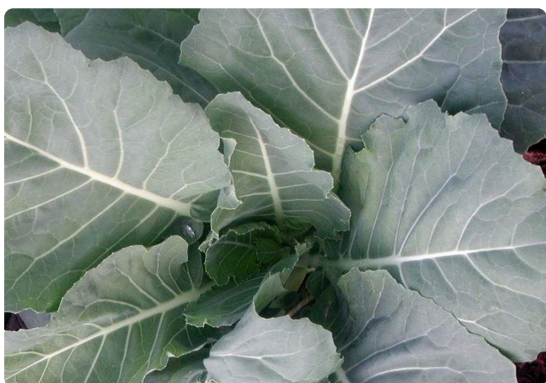
Cauliflower: PuntoVerde (Romanesco)

- Days to maturity: 78
- Johnny's most reliable all-season Romanesco.
- Attractive, high-quality heads for summer or fall harvest. Produces excellent fall crops.
- Outperforms typical Romanesco types under stressful weather conditions.



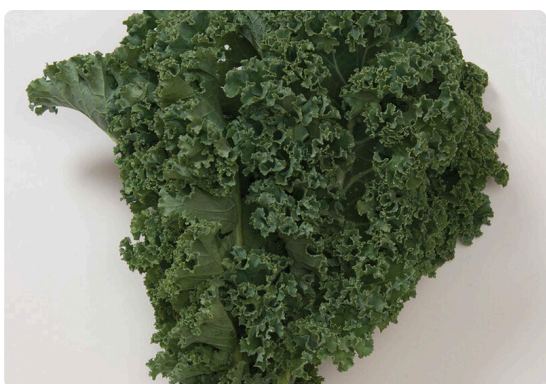
Collards: Cascade Glaze

- Days to maturity: 60
- Nearly 200-year-old southern, wavy-leafed classic "Green Glaze" brought back to life by collaborative breeding efforts.
- It expresses an uncommon recessive gene for a waxy, glossy leaf texture, which is said to deter cabbage worms.
- Top-notch flavor and very sweet leaf stems with much improved cold tolerance over its southern original.



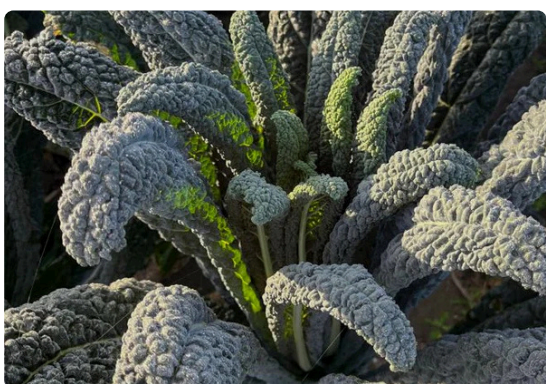
Collards: Vates

- Days to maturity: 70
- Slow-bolting collard with large blue-green leaves on 32 in. tall plants.
- Produces high-quality frost-resistant greens especially suited to the Mid-Atlantic and the South.



Kale: Winterbor

- Days to maturity: 60
- F-1 Hybrid
- Standard green curly kale.
- Vigorous plants will continue growing to produce leaves for successive harvests as the lower leaves are harvested.



Kale: Lapo

- Days to maturity: 60
- The variety type comes from the Tuscan hills of Italy, where it can be found in nearly every garden. The plants, with their long, blistered dark green leaves, are beautiful enough to be found in formal flower gardens here in the States.
- Highly selected version with shorter stalks, less branching, and slender leaves with fully curled margins.



Kale: Unicorn

- Days to maturity: 60
- New to market!
- Vivid green leaves with bright purple stems and curled leaf margins.
- Crunchy, succulent texture.
- Although less cold hardy than other kales, will likely perform and yield more than Redbor.



Mustard: Green Wave

- Days to maturity: 21 baby/45 full size
- Spiciest mustard
- Bright green, broad leaves with a tightly scalloped margin and hot, mustardy flavor.



Mustard: Scarlet Frills

- Days to maturity: 21 baby/45 full size
- Very slow bolting, broadleaf mustard. Purple-tinted leaves with gently scalloped margins.
- Plant densely so leaves remain a proper size for baby leaf and petioles elongate for easy harvest.
- Milder flavor than Green Wave

Lettuce



Salanova Green Butterhead

- Days to maturity: 55
- Heads have a round base with open leaves.
- Delicate, buttery flavor.
- Great as a whole head or in salad mix.
- Bolt-resistant



Salanova Green Oakleaf

- Days to maturity: 55
- Fine-lobed salad-bowl-type oakleaf.
- Darker green, and more upright growth habit, than previous Green Oakleaf, making it less sensitive to bottom rot.
- Compact heads are great as a whole head or in salad mix.



Grazion

- Days to maturity: 52
- A slow-bolting green leaf with heavy, attractive heads and dark green leaves with wavy margins.
- Strong performer with excellent disease resistance.



Cherokee

- Days to maturity: 48
- Darkest red leaves and a long harvest window
- Very slow bolting with excellent tolerance to heat and bottom rot.
- High resistance to downy mildew.



Ruby Sky

- Days to maturity: 58
- Disease resistance makes this red leaf variety particularly well suited to late season production.
- Ruffled leaves are intense red at the tips and green at the inner base.



Green Forest

- Days to maturity: 56
- Early, tall, and dark green romaine.
- Slow-bolting and has smooth ribs so it packs and handles with little damage.
- Tolerant to tipburn.