

News Article
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So you Like Broccoli, Cauliflower & Cabbage??

Getting started with the best variety usually is a great indicator for your success. Broccoli tastes best when grown in cool weather – in spring or fall. I choose a 55 day variety such as “Pack Man” and “Bonanza Hybrid” for spring, as they have the highest yield. Seeds can be direct seeded, but are more commonly started indoors around the first week of February, and transplanted to the garden at about 5 inches high. Make sure that seedlings get plenty of light - not too hot or cool, with a temperature range of 60-65°F. Be ready to transplant in late March to mid-April, the earlier the better. Most cauliflower takes longer to mature, some 60 o 70 days, however, there is a Burpee exclusive 50 day “First White Hybrid” and 50 day “Snow Crown”. There are a variety of cabbages that are suitable for our gardeners.

For my use, I put out 24 broccoli plants, 12 cauliflowers, and no cabbage. I have my garden ground in rough condition. I have saved enough 1 gallon milk cartons to use in my garden. You can cut out the bottom, throw away the cap, and cover young seedlings in the soil with the milk jug for protection from frost and freezing. When all danger of frost and freezing passes, remove the jug on some cloudy days to prevent sunburn. Till the soil when you are able, and use a liberal amount of 10-10-10 fertilizer around each plant. Watch for worms on your plants, and use Sevin if necessary. Enjoy your fresh Cole crops, and freeze the extra!

A complete list of crops suitable for a spring garden can be found on page 14 of “*Home Vegetable Gardening in Kentucky*”, as well as a section on growing transplants indoors, which can be found on page 9. This valuable gardening guide was written by the University of Kentucky’s Department of Horticulture and is available to purchase for \$2.00 at the Grayson County Extension Office. Call the Extension Office at 259-3492 for more information.

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