

Georgia's 12 Seasons:

Winter

Fool's Spring

Second Winter

Spring of Deception

Third Winter

The Pollening

Actual Spring

Summer

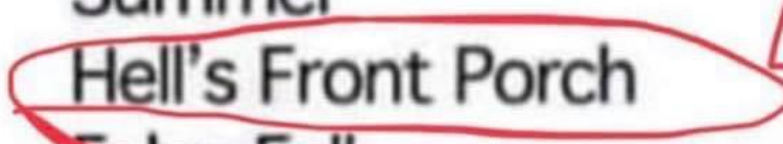
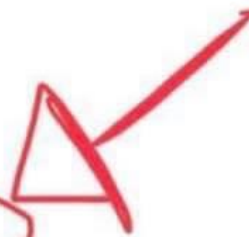
Hell's Front Porch

False Fall

Second Summer

Actual Fall

you are here



Is Summer Over Yet???

(Fall Vegetable Gardening)



- Ann Bone, MGEV

The Best Time of the Year

- Milder temperatures
- Many garden pests getting ready to hide out for the winter
- Breezes keep flying insects at bay
- Steadier rain patterns (we hope) produces that elusive “moist, but well-drained” soil
- Soil temperatures are still warm enough for seed germination

Preparing for a Fall Garden

- Rip out old stuff
- Dispose of diseased and rotten stuff
- Turn the soil to expose hidden pests
- Allow a couple of days for birds to do the dirty work
- Add organic matter
- Work it in
- Water to settle

What's My Soil Temperature?

[Www.weather.uga.edu](http://www.weather.uga.edu)

Enter your zip code, and voila!

From www.weather.uga.edu
zip code 30338

- Cherokee Town and Country Club
- Dunwoody, Fulton County, Georgia
 - Current Conditions
- Today is Thursday, September 12, 2019. The time is 11:07:38 AM
 - Temperature 83.2 °F
 - 2 Inch Soil 77.0 °F
 - 4 Inch Soil 77.4 °F
 - 8 Inch Soil 77.9 °F
 - Soil Moisture 24.9 %

Optimum Soil Temps for Germination

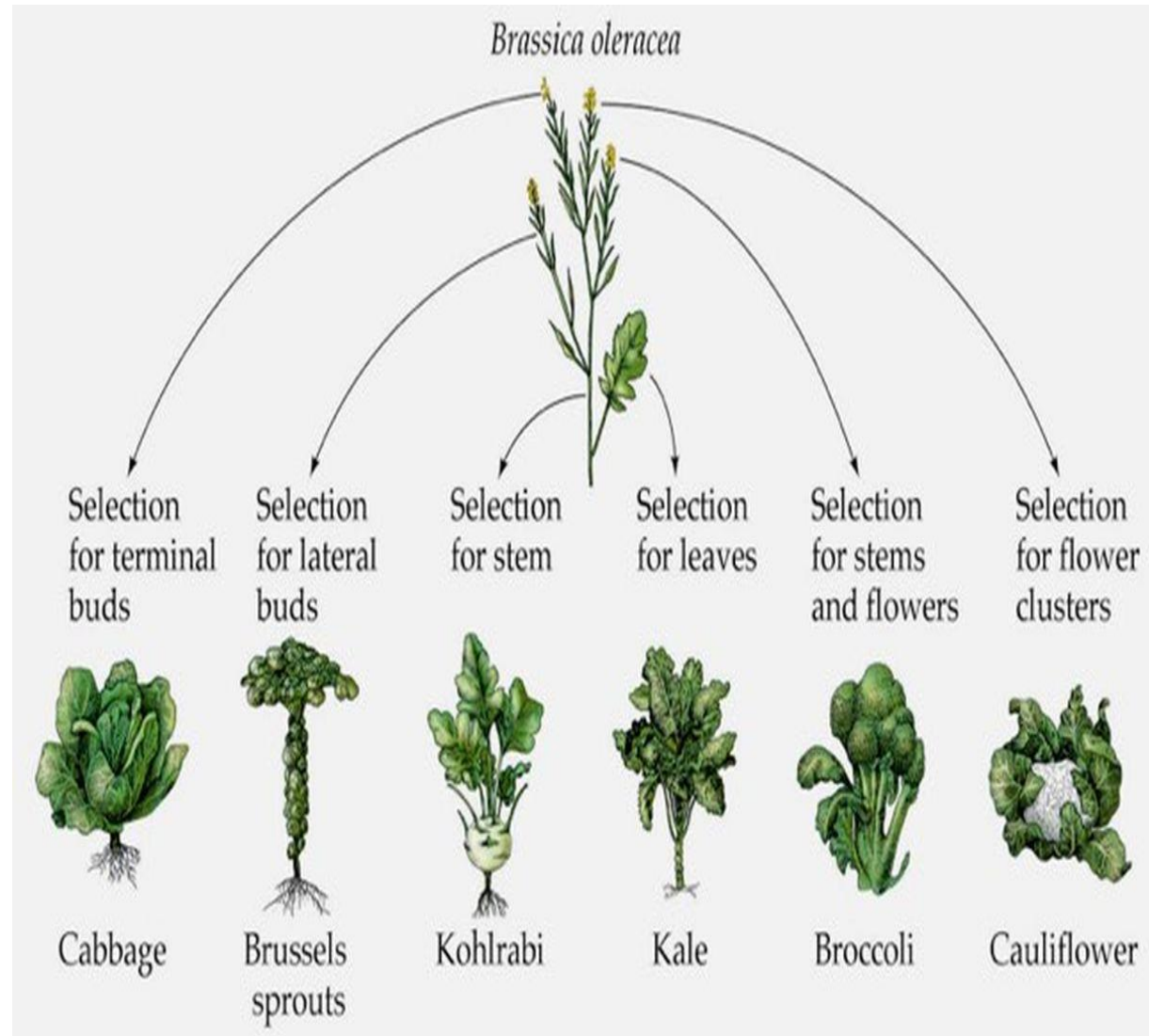
- Beet (85F)
- Broccoli (64F)
- Brussels sprouts (68F)
- Cabbage (85F)*
- Carrot (80F)
- Cauliflower (80F)
- Celery (70F)
- Lettuce (75F)
- Parsley (75F)
- Parsnip (65F)
- Pea (75F)
- Radish (85F)*
- Spinach (below 60F)
- Turnip (85F)*
- *Cabbage, radish, and turnip are considered cool crops but do like extra warmth for seed germination.

What to Plant?

- Brassicas
- Leafy Greens
- Root crops
- Cover crops

Brassicas

- All descended from one ancient plant, the *brassica oleracea*



Cabbages

- Plant 12-24 inches apart
- The closer planted, the smaller the heads
- Mulch thickly
- Heavy feeder
- Side dress with 5-5-5 monthly (organic!)
- Rotate locations
- Can be ornamental



Brussel Sprouts

- Work fertilizer into soil 2-3 days before planting
- Thin to 12 -24 inches apart when 6" tall
- Harvest from the bottom
- Heavy feeders, need side dressing



Kohlrabi

- Thin seedlings to 4" apart
- Best harvested when bulbs are 2-3" in diameter
- Harvest foliage when still young and tender



Kale

- Plant 8-12 inches apart
- Grows anytime!
- Some are ornamental
- Mulch heavily after first hard freeze



Broccoli

- Plant 1 foot apart
- Harvest main head when it is 3-6" in diameter
- Side heads will be produced
- Heavy feeder, side dress every month



Cauliflower

- Needs consistent water, 1-1.5" a week
- Mulch
- Heavy feeder, side dress with 5-5-5 monthly
- Blanch the heads!
- Harvest at 6" in diameter



Who is Blanch???



NEW brassicas on the block - Asian Super Greens

- The latest “it” veggies
- Super nutritious
- Katsunaga
- Mizuna (a mustard)
- Tatsoi
- Tokyo Bakana



Brassica Pests

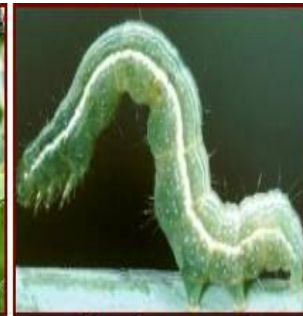
- Worms and Loopers
- Love cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower, Brussel sprouts
- Apply BT early – this is an organic treatment
 - Dipel Dust
 - Thericide



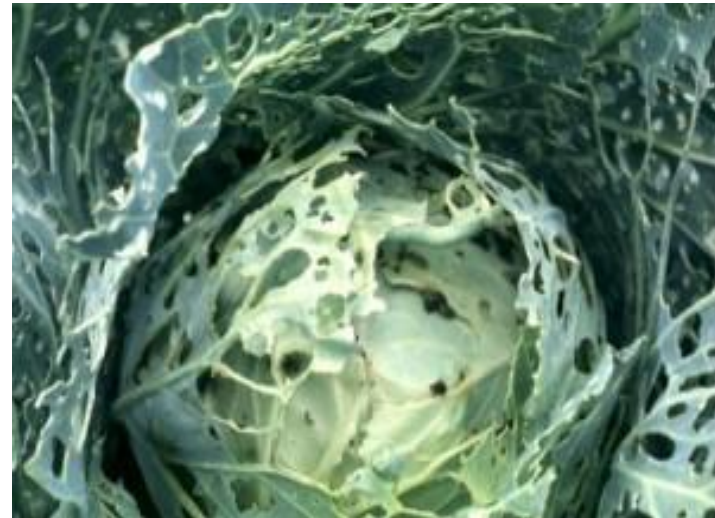
Caterpillar of small cabbage white butterfly



Caterpillar of large cabbage white butterfly



Cabbage looper caterpillar



And more pests.....



- Aphids
- Insecticidal Soap

Leafy Greens

- Lettuces
- Collards
- Mustard Greens
- Spinach
- Kales
- Bok Choy
- Swiss Chard
- Arugula

Lettuces



- So many varieties!
- Easy to grow
- Frost hardy to 28 degrees, cover when colder
- Clip leaves or harvest the entire head

Collards



- A southern tradition!
- Plant 18" apart
- Frost tolerant
- Harvest by the leaf or cut the entire plant when fully grown
- 60-75 days

Mustard Greens

- Spicy
- Easy to grow
- Need lots of water...about 2" per week
- Ready to harvest in 45 days



Spinach

- Can be tricky to germinate
- Soil must be cooler than 60 degrees
- LIGHT feeders due to slow growth
- Plant 4" apart
- Can handle temps down to 15 degrees



Bok Choy



- Plant 6-10" apart
- 45-50 days to maturity
- Bok Choy is a non-heading cabbage
- Harvest when 12-18 " tall
- Frost tolerant to 30 degrees

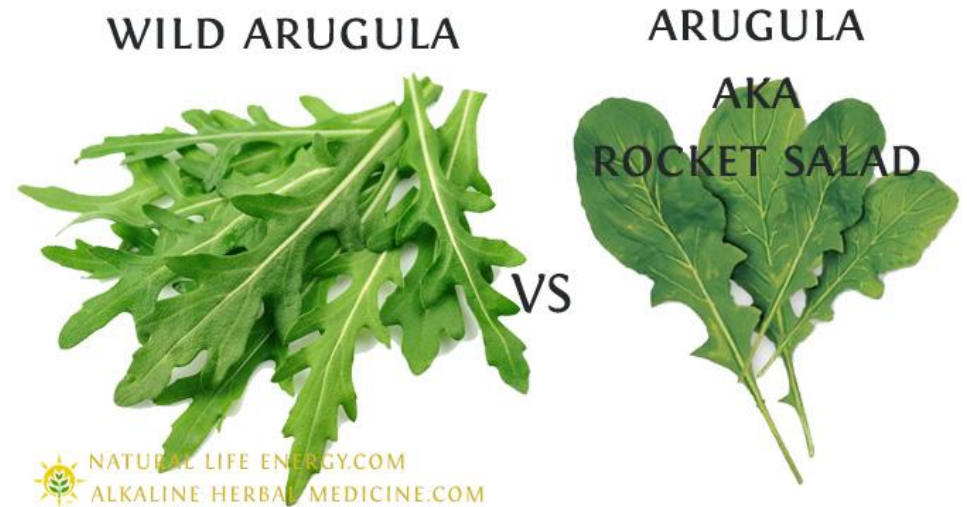
Swiss Chard

- Plant or thin to 12" apart
- Close relative of beets (who knew?)
- Easy to grow
- Pest resistant
- Harvest continually to keep productive



Arugula

- Garden superstar!
- Grows year-round
- Fast-growing, harvest at 4 weeks
- Tangy
- Frost hardy



Root Crops

- Soft soil is the key to success!
- Turn the top 12-15" of earth till loose and fluffy
- Start from seeds ... root crops can't be transplanted easily
- Plenty of water needed for germination, seedlings and growth
- Which micronutrient do root crops need?

Turnips



- Thin to 6" apart
- Grown for the greens and for the root
- Greens can be harvested by 30 days
- Roots can be harvested within 60 days, best flavor when 1.5" in diameter

Beets

- Need constant moisture
- Thin to 2-3" apart
- Harvest at 1-2" in diameter (Over 3" become tough and fibrous)
- Don't let them freeze



Carrots

- Super easy
- Soft soil a must!
- Thin to 2" apart when the plants are 4" high
- Harvest when "shoulders" show above ground



When I forgot to re-loosen soil.....



Radishes

- Super easy to grow
- Thin to 2" apart
- Harvest in 28 days
- Best flavor when 1-1.5" in diameter
- Plant every 2 weeks for continual harvest



Rutabagas

- Thin to 8" apart
- Mulch but don't let the mulch touch the stems
- Need constant moisture
- Harvest when slightly larger than a tennis ball, no more than 5"



Onions and Garlic – Yum!

- High yield – 20-50 green onions in 1.5 sq feet
- Tops grow in cool weather, bulbs when weather warms next spring and summer
- Heavy feeders – side dress with 5-5-5 every month

Chives



Garlic



Leeks



Onion



Shallot



Feeding the Garden

- Work in organic matter before planting
- Work in some organic 5-5-5
- Side dress the heavy feeders monthly while growing:
 - Brussels sprouts
 - Cabbage
 - Broccoli
 - Cauliflower
 - Onions

Mulch

- Mulching is essential – 1-3 inches
- Pine straw
- Chips
- Chopped dead leaves
- Newspapers (not 1-3 inches!)

Protection from Freezing

- Don't panic!
- Covering isn't needed for most cool season crops until it drops below 20 degrees
- Row cover fabric
- Plastic
- Don't place directly on the plants – support with hoops or other framework

Cover Crops

- Crimson clover – replenishes nitrogen into the soil
- Rye grass
- Millet

And then the person yanked him out of the ground by his hair, peeled him and boiled him. The End. Now go to sleep!

