

Ashe County Planting Guide



This document has been adapted from the growing guide found in the *North Carolina Extension Gardener Handbook* (2018). It was created as a resource for local growers in the Ashe County area, within USDA hardiness zones 6a & 6b. Currently, Ashe County's average Last Spring Frost date, conservatively, is May 15th, and the First Fall Frost date is October 1st.

How to use this document: Growers should find the crop they wish to grow and review the days to harvest time provided. The days until harvest will not only provide the number of days, but also how that crop should be started (direct seeded; transplanted; etc.). Growers can also review spacing requirements for each crop as well. More information on certain crop's nutrients, soil or cultural considerations can be found at plants.ces.ncsu.edu

Next, growers should look at the calendar portion of the chart to review when it is safe to plant. The planting dates take into consideration factors such as the frost dates, time till harvest, and optimal growing conditions (Temperature, precipitation, sunlight). Growers should plan to plant their crops within the calendar windows provided. For planting dates that fall directly on or after the average last frost date, Growers need to review current weather and wait to plant after the current season's last frost date. Some crops also have fall planting windows provided as well. For more information or crop specific questions, please contact the NC Cooperative Extension, Ashe County Center at (336) 846-5850.

Fruit, Herb, or Vegetable	Days to Harvest (from seed unless otherwise noted)	Distance Between Plants	Jan		Feb		Mar		Apr		May		Jun		Jul		Aug		Sep		Oct		Nov		Dec	
			1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15
Beans, lima/bush	65 – 80	6 in																								
Beans, lima/pole	75 – 95	6 in																								

= Last Spring frost date;
 = First Fall Frost date;
 = Spring Planting;
 = Fall Planting

B = Bulbs; C = Crowns; S = Seeds; T = Transplants; Tu = Tubers

If Spring planting () starts on Last Spring Frost date (), Check weather for next 10 days and plant after last frost.

*Start seeds indoors for later transplant in the garden. Do not plant seeds directly in the garden.

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			1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15
Cabbage	T = 63 – 75 S = 90 – 120*	12 in																								
Cabbage, Chinese	T = 45 – 55 S = 75 – 85	12 in																								
Carrots	75 – 80	2 in																								

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			1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	
Corn, sweet	85 – 90	12 in																									
Cucumbers	T= 28 – 37 S = 56 – 65	12 in																									
Dill	40 – 55	2 – 4 in																									

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			1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15
Leek	T = 50 – 80 S = 120 – 150	4 in																								
Lettuce, head	T = 45 – 60 S = 70 – 85	10 in																								
Lettuce, leaf	T = 15 – 25 S = 40 – 50	6 in																								

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			1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	
Onions, green	T = 42 – 50 S = 60 – 70	1 – 2 in																									
Pac choy, bok choy	T = 30 – 75 S = 45 – 90*	7 – 12 in																									
Parsley	T = 33 S = 75	9 – 12 in																									

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Potatoes, Irish	Tu = 95 – 120	10 in																								
Potatoes, sweet	T = 95 – 125	10 in																								

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			1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15	1	15
Squash, winter	T = 42 – 67 S = 70 – 95	36 in																								
Sunflower	55 – 110	9 – 24 in																								
Tomatoes	T = 75 – 85 S = 125 – 135*	18 in																								
Turnips	55 – 60	2 in																								

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For more information on gardening in North Carolina, see go.ncsu.edu/eg-handbook and gardening.ces.ncsu.edu.

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