

Guide to Home Vegetable Gardening In Trinity County



Vegetable gardening in Trinity County has its special challenges due to our short growing season. The UCCE Master Gardeners of Trinity County have compiled climate data and adapted growing schedules for your use.

Projected Growing Season and Frost/Freeze Dates

Trinity County has many microclimates. Your growing season will vary, depending on many factors including elevation, aspect (south or north-facing slopes) and slope position. Gardens on mid-slope may have cold air slide downhill to settle in valley bottoms. Clay soils may remain cooler in the spring, compared to sandy soils. Please consider the information below and adapt it to your garden.

The following freeze/frost dates are based on data from the National Climatic Data Center. The 10% column for spring means that you are very unlikely to have a freeze/frost after that date (90% of recorded freezes have occurred by that date). The 50% column can be considered the average last frost date. Your growing season can be extended through the use of row covers, cloches and other frost protection devices.

Temperature	10%	50%	Projected growing season
<u>Hayfork (elevation 2330')</u>			117 days
Spring 32°	May 27	May 15	
Fall 32°	Sept 21	Oct 7	
<u>Big Bar (elevation 1253')</u>			140 days
Spring 32°	May 19	April 21	
Fall 32°	Oct 6	Oct 27	
<u>Weaverville (elevation 1968')</u>			113 days
Spring 32°	May 24	May 15	
Fall 32°	Sept 13	Sept 26	
<u>Trinity River Hatchery (elevation 1860')</u>			
Spring 32°		April 30	

Suggested Planting Schedule for Trinity County

This is a general guide. Your planting and harvest dates will vary, depending on location.

Name of Vegetable	Start seeds indoors	Plant seed or sets outdoors	Distance Between plants	Depth of seeding (inches)	Days 'til Harvest	Comments
Asparagus	Takes one year to transplant	April 15 - May 1 (crowns)	12 – 18"	6 - 8 (crowns)	Annually Each Spring	Don't cut first year
Beans, snap (bush)		May 15 - July 1	3 – 4"	1½ - 2	45-65	Soil temp > 60°F
Beans, snap(pole)		May 15 - July 1	4 – 6"	1½ - 2	85-90	
Beans, dry shell		May 15	3 – 4"	1½	60-70	
Beans, lima		May 15 - June 10	4 – 6"	1½	60-80	
Beets		April 15 - July 1	2 – 4"	½ - 1	55-65	
Broccoli	March 1 - 15	April 15 or June 1	24"	¼ (indoors)	60-80	
Brussels sprouts	March 1 - 15	April 15 or June 1	24"	¼ (indoors)	80-90	
Cabbage, early	March 1 - 15	April 1 - May 1	18"	¼ (indoors)	65-70	
Cabbage, late	April 15 - May 1	June 1	24"	¼ (seedbed)	65-70	
Cabbage, Chinese	April 1-May 1	July 1	18"	½	80-90	
Carrots		April 15 - June 15	2 – 3"	¼	60-80	
Cauliflower	March 1 - 15	April 15 or June 1	18 – 24"	¼ (indoors)	55-65	
Chard, Swiss		May 1	6 – 8"	1	55-65	
Collards		April 15	6"	¼	65-85	
Corn, Sweet		May 15 – June 15	12"	4-5	70-90	Plant blocks in succession
Cucumbers		May 1 - June 15	12" between single plants; 36" between hills of three	1	55-65	
Eggplant	March 15 - April 1	June 1	24"	¼ (indoors)	75-95t	

Name of Vegetable	Start seeds indoors	Plant seed or sets outdoors	Distance Between plants	Depth of seeding (inches)	Days 'til Harvest	Comments
Endive		April 15	8 – 12"	½	60-90	
Garlic		Oct. 1 - Nov. 1	4 – 6"	3 - 4	90-sets	
Horseradish		April 15 - May 1	12 – 18"	6 (roots)	6-8 months	
Kale		April 15 - July 15	12 – 18"	½	55-60	
Kohlrabi		April 15 - June 1 or Aug. 1 - 15	6"	½	60-70	
Lettuce, leaf		April 15 - June 1 or Aug. 1 - 15	4 – 6"	¼	45-60	
Lettuce, head	March 1 - 15	April 15 - May 1	12"	¼ (indoors)	55-80	
Muskmelon		May 15 - June 1	24"	1	75-100	
Okra	March 15 - April 1	June 1	12 – 15"	½ (indoors)		
Onion seeds		April 15	2"	½	100+	
Onion, transplants	Feb. 1 - 15	April 15	2 – 3"	½ (indoors)	85-110	
Onion, sets		April 1-15	2 – 3"	1 - 2	95-110	
Parsley		April 15 - May 1	4 – 6"	¼	85-90	
Parsnips		May 1 - 15	3 – 4"	½	100+	
Peas		April 10 - May 15	2"	1½	65-80	
Pepper	March 15 - April 1	June 1	18 – 24"	½ (indoors)	60-80t	
Potato, Irish		April 1 – May 15 (seed potatoes)	26"	Trench	90-100	
Potato, Sweet		June 1 (slips)	12"	Trench	90-170	
Pumpkins	April 1	June 15	48"		80-110	
Radish	Mar 15	June 30	2"		20-40	
Rutabaga		July 15	3"		90-120	
Spinach	Mar 15-25	June 15-30	3"		40-60	
Squash, Summer	April 1	June 15	24"		50-60	
Squash, Winter	April 1	June 15	24-48"		85-120	
Tomato	April 19	June 1	18-36"		55-90t	
Turnip	Mar 30	July 30	2"		45-55	
Watermelon	May 30	June 10	60"		80-100	