

When to Sow

Practical skills

A rough calendar for common vegetables in a temperate climate.

Northern hemisphere, temperate. Shift by six months for the southern.

Crop	Sow	Harvest
Tomatoes	Feb–Apr, indoors	Jul–Oct
Lettuce	Mar–Aug, successional	6–8 weeks later
Runner beans	May, after frost	Jul–Oct
Carrots	Mar–Jul, direct	10–16 weeks
Potatoes	Mar–Apr	Jun–Sep
Garlic	Oct–Nov	Jun–Jul
Radish	Mar–Sep	4 weeks
Onion sets	Mar–Apr	Aug

Successional sowing — a short row every two weeks — gives a steady supply instead of a glut and then nothing.