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Commercial Vegetable Recommendations, Vegetable Varieties for Commercial Growers
Michigan State University
Cooperative Extension Service
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Horticulture
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Commercial Vegetable Recommendations

Vegetable Varieties for Commercial Growers

Bernard H. Zandstra and Hugh C. Price
Department of Horticulture

This is only a partial listing of satisfactory varieties and seed sources. Many other excellent varieties are available from these and other seed companies. Numbers in **bold** after varieties refer to days to harvest. Numbers in (parentheses) refer to *Seed Sources Table*, p. 5.

ASPARAGUS

Jersey Giant—(11) All male hybrid developed in New Jersey

Viking KB3—(15) Best selection of Washington strains

SYN 4-56—(11) Hybrid 70% male

SYN 4-51—(11) Hybrid 70% male

LIMA BEANS

Early Thorogreen—**68** (4, 13) Small seeded, bush

Fordhook 242—**75** (1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 13, 14, 15) Large seeded, bush

SNAP BEANS

Astro—**52** (5) Round pod, white seeds, concentrated set

Bush Blue Lake 47—**57** (5) Round pod, white seeds, concentrated set

Bush Blue Lake 274—**60** (1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 14) Large plants, heavy yields, white seeds

Provider—**50** (1, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 14, 15) Round pod, purple seeds

Spartan Arrow—**51** (1, 7, 9, 14) Oval pod, buff seeds, semi-concentrated set

Strike—**52** (5, 15) Heavy yields, concentrated set, uniform beans, white seed

Tendercrop—**55** (6, 7, 9, 13) Round pod, white seeds, large plant

WAX BEANS

Goldrush—**54** (5) Round yellow pods, white seeds

Cherokee—**52** (5, 7, 15) Oval yellow pods, black seeds

Sungold—**56** (7, 9, 15) Round yellow pods, white seeds

RED BEETS

Crosby Green Top—**60** (9) Good for bunching

Detroit Dark Red—**66** (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15) Good for processing or local sales

Ruby Queen—**60** (1, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15) Good for processing or marketing

BROCCOLI (Seeded)

Baccus—**70** (5) Early, short plant; large heads

Cruiser—**75** (14) Solid, attractive heads, large plants, high heads

Emperor—**75** (1, 3, 7, 12, 13, 14, 15) Good yields; for fall harvest

Galaxy—**75** (5) Solid, attractive heads

Goliath—**70** (15) Solid, smooth heads on tall stalk

Green Comet—**75** (1, 6, 7, 9, 14) Good color, uniform, fairly solid heads; very short stalk, for local sales

Packman—**70** (1, 14) Early; solid, attractive head on tall stalk

Southern Comet—**75** (1, 3, 9, 14) Fairly solid, smooth heads

BRUSSELS SPROUTS (Transplanted)

Green Marvel—**120** Short, compact plants

Lunet—**130** (1) Taller, later

Prince Marvel—**110** (1, 3, 7, 9, 12, 14, 15) Short, compact plants

CABBAGE (Fresh Market; Transplanted)

Bravo—**85** (9)

Conquest—**75** (5)

Gourmet—**75** (1, 7, 8, 14, 15)

Green Winter—**120** (9) For storage

Market Prize—**76** (9) Good early cabbage

Rio Verde—**85** (1, 3, 9, 12, 14)

Superette—**70** (7, 8, 14, 15)

CABBAGE (Processing)

Krautpacker—**90** (13)

Roundup—**80** (7, 8, 13, 14, 15)

Sanibel—**85** (14)

Titanic 90—**85** (7, 8, 13, 14)

CABBAGE (Red)

Red Danish—**100** (9, 14, 15)

Red Head—**87** (1, 3, 9, 14, 15)

Ruby Ball—**72** (7, 9, 14)

CABBAGE (Chinese; Seeded)

Jade Pagoda—**80** (1, 3, 9, 14, 15)
Medium tall type

CARROTS (Fresh Market)

Chancellor—**medium** (5)

Fanci Pak—**medium** (1, 7, 12, 14)

Grenadier—**early** (9)

Paramount—**early** (5)

Six Pak—**medium** (9)

Spartan Delite 80—**medium** (5, 14)

Spartan Fancy 80—**medium** (1, 5, 14, 15)

Trophy—**early** (9)

CARROTS (Processing)

Spartan Bonus 80—**110** (5)
Danvers Type

CAULIFLOWER (Transplanted)

Imperial 10-6—**80** (9) Midseason;
solid white heads

Snow Crown—**60** (1, 3, 6, 7, 9, 14, 15) Medium early; attractive heads

Self-Blanche—**95** (1, 3, 7, 13, 14, 15) Very late; very solid, large, white heads

Snow Pak—**90** (1, 14) Late; large, solid heads

Taipan—**78** (15) Solid uniform heads; similar to White Fox

White Fox—**75** (1, 12, 14, 15) Midseason; compact plants, need extra care when growing

White Rock—**80** (1, 12, 14, 15) Similar to White Fox; very self blanching

White Top—**90** (1, 12, 14, 15) Late; large, solid, white heads

CELERY (Transplanted)

Deacon—**85** (7, 9) Some tolerance to Fusarium yellows race 2

Florida 683—**85** (1, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 14, 15) Attractive, tight stalks

Green Giant—**80** (1, 14) Early, large vigorous plants

Ventura—**80** (7, 8, 14, 15) Early; compact stalks

Utah 52-70HK—**85** (4, 7) Similar to F683, some tolerance to Fusarium yellows race 2

Utah 52-70R Imp.—**85** (1, 5, 7, 8, 9, 14) Attractive, tight stalks

SWEET CORN (Yellow)

Apache—**82** (5)

Aztec—**68** (5, 13, 15)

Comanche—**72** (5, 15)

Earlivee—**63** (7, 13, 15)

Gold Cup—**80** (9)

Gold Winner—**79** (9)

Jubilee—**84** (1, 9, 13, 14)

Merit—**84** (5, 13, 14)

Northern Belle—**74** (9)

Spring Gold—**67** (9)

Sundance—**69** (9)

SWEET CORN (White)

Quicksilver—**75** (9)

Silver Queen—**94** (1, 3, 6, 7, 9, 13, 14, 15)

Snowbelle—**78** (5)

Summer Sweet 8601—**86** (1) sh2

SWEET CORN (Bicolor)

Dandy—**86** (5)

Harmony—**73** (9)

Spring Calico—**70** (5)

Sprite—**68** (9)

Sweet Sal—**86** (9)

Sweet Sue—**88** (9)

SWEET CORN (High Sugar)

Early Xtra Sweet—**75** (1, 4, 6, 14) sh2

Florida Staysweet—**87** (1, 14) sh2

Summer Sweet 7800—**87** (1) sh2

Sweet Belle—**84** (5) sh2

CUCUMBERS (Pickling)

Calypso—(1, 5, 9, 12, 14)

Earlypick 14—(6)

Regal—(9)

Reliance—(12)

Score—(5)

Tamor—(5)

Triple Crown—(8)

Flurry—(5)

CUCUMBERS (Slicing)

Marketmore 76; 80—**68** (3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15) Main season; excellent quality

Pacer—**65** (9) Early main season; similar to Marketmore

Raider—**62** (9) Early hybrid

Slicemaster—**62** (1, 9, 13, 14) Early gynocious hybrid

Sprint 440 II—**60** (5) Early gynocious hybrid

EGGPLANT

Black Magic—**73** (9)

Burpee Hybrid—**70** (6)

Classic—**76** (9)

Dusky—**69** (1, 6, 9, 13, 14, 15)

KALE

Vates (Dwarf blue curled)—**55** (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 13, 14) Dark green, very curled

LETTUCE (Head)

Green Lake—**61** (1, 4, 9, 15)
Medium heads; root rot resistant

Ithaca—**60** (1, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 13, 14, 15) Standard Michigan lettuce; large heads

Montello—**62** (1, 5, 7, 9, 14) Medium heads; root rot resistant

Raleigh—**60** (1, 8) Large, solid heads, cover good

South Bay—**61** (1, 8, 15) Medium heads; stands heat well

LETTUCE (Leaf)

Grand Rapids—**45** (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 14, 15)

Slobolt—**45** (1, 9, 14, 15)

Waldmanns Green—**45** (3, 5, 8, 9, 14, 15)

LETTUCE (Bibb and Butterhead)

Bibb—**58** (4) For harvest before July 1, and after September 1

Buttercrunch—**64** (1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 13, 14, 15) Larger than Summer Bibb; for all season

Citation—**75** (5)

Dark Green Boston—**68** (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 14) For spring and fall crops

Summer Bibb—**62** (1, 4, 7, 9, 14) Slow bolting; for harvest June through August

Tania—**68** (9)

LETTUCE (Romaine)

Parris Island—**65** (1, 3, 5, 8, 9, 13, 14, 15)

Valmaine—**70** (1, 5, 8, 9, 14, 15)

MUSKMELON

Burpee Hybrid—**85** (6, 7, 13, 14, 15) Deep ribbed, heavy netted; good for local sales

Classic—**85** (1, 3, 13, 14) Main season; similar to Burpee Hybrid

Earli-Sweet—**75** (1, 3, 13, 14) Early; small fruit with slight ribbing

Gold Star—**85** (9) Main season; similar to Burpee Hybrid

Saticoy—**90** (1, 3, 7, 9, 14, 15) Late; shallow ribs and light netting; good shipper

Summet—**85** (5, 15) Main season

Superstar—**86** (9) Large, main season

OKRA (Transplants)

Annie Oakley—**45** (1, 6, 14) Compact plants, large yields

Better Five—**45** Good yields

Clemson Spineless 80—**50** (1, 2, 8, 14) Improved Clemson Spineless

Dixie Spineless—**50** (12) Similar to Clemson Spineless

Lee—**50** Attractive pods, fair yields

Penta Green—**45** Good yields

ONIONS (Yellow)

Bronze Reserve—**110** (1, 7, 8, 14) Early, resistant to Fusarium basal rot, medium size

Capable—**110** (4, 14) Large, early good yields, good storage

Class Pak—**110** (8) Resistant to Pink root, Fusarium basal rot

Eskimo—**110** (1, 14, 15) Early, large, double centers; not for storage

Gold Mine—**120** (7, 8) Resistant to Fusarium basal rot

Krummrey—**130** (10) Late, large, good yield, good storage

North Star—**105** (8) Resistant to Fusarium basal rot

Norstar—**105** (1, 3, 14, 15) Early, large, round; double centers; not for storage

Progress—**110** (9) Early; not for storage

Rip Van Winkle—**120** (8) Resistant to Fusarium basal rot; very long storage

Sentinel—**120** (9) Good storage onion

Spartan Banner 80—**120** (1, 3, 5, 9, 14) Good yields; good storage

ONIONS (Red)

Benny's Red—**120** (1, 9, 14, 15) Large, soft; not for long-term storage

Ruby—**110** (5) Large, soft; not for long-term storage

ONIONS (Sweet)

Golden Treasure—**130** (1) Large, fair storage

Sweetheart—**125** (8) Medium large, fair storage

Sweet Sandwich—**125** (1, 3, 5, 6, 14, 15) Medium large, good storage

ONIONS (Green Bunching)

Japanese Bunching—**60** (1, 9, 14) Nonbulbing

Tokyo Long White—**60** (4, 9, 14, 15) Nonbulbing

White Spear—**60** (1, 14) Nonbulbing

PEAS (Green)

Bolero—**69** (5)

Freezonian—**62** (3, 6, 9, 13)

Greater Progress—**62** (9, 13)

Knight—**62** (1, 9, 14)

Spring—**57** (5)

Sugar Ann—**60** (1, 7, 9, 15) Edible pods

Sugar Snap—**70** (1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 13, 14) Edible pods

Venus—**62** (5)

PEAS (Southern)

California Blackeye #5—**115** (14) Blackeye

Colossus—**110** Crowder

Hercules—**125** Crowder

Mississippi Silver—**100** (14) Crowder

Pinkeye Purplehull—**100** (7, 14) Purplehull

PEPPERS (Green Bell)

- Anabelle—90 (9)
Bell Boy—75 (1, 6, 13, 14)
Big Belle—78 (8)
Four Corners—78 (7, 8, 15)
Jupiter—78 (1, 12, 14)
Keystone Resistant Giant—80 (1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 14, 15)
Lady Bell—72 (9)
Staddons Select—72 (3)
Sweet Belle—75 (8)
Yolo Wonder B—80 (1, 4, 8, 9)
Yolo Wonder L—78 (1, 4, 5, 8, 9, 14)

PEPPERS (Processing)

- Gold Spike—70 (1)
Hungarian Yellow Wax—70 (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 13, 15)
Jalapeno—75 (4, 5, 6, 9, 15)
Red Cherry (Hot)—80 (1, 3, 4, 6, 9, 13, 14)
Red Cherry (Sweet)—80 (1, 4)
Rumanian Wax—70 (9)
Sweet Banana—72 (1, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 14)

PUMPKIN (Small)

- Small Sugar—115 (1, 4, 5, 6, 13, 14, 15)
Spookie—110 (3, 15)

PUMPKIN (Medium)

- Spirit—110 (1, 3, 6, 14, 15)
Trick or Treat—110 (1, 14)

PUMPKIN (Large)

- Connecticut Field—115 (1, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15)
Howden—115 (9)
Jackpot—110 (9)

PUMPKIN (Very Large)

- Atlantic Giant—120 (15)

- Big Moon—120 (1, 14)
Big Max—120 (1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14)

RADISH

- Scarlet Knight—24 (9, 12, 14)
Fancy Red—25 (9) Some tolerance to scab
Fancy Red Short Top—25 (9) Some tolerance to scab
Red Devil and R.D.B.—25 (1, 7, 8, 14)
Red King—25 (9) Resistant to clubroot
Red Prince—25 (1, 5, 7, 12, 14)

RUTABAGA

- Laurentian—90 (1, 3, 4, 5, 14, 15)

RHUBARB

- Canada Red—Red, few seed stalks
MacDonald—(6) Pink, medium seed stalks
Valentine—(6) Red, few seed stalks
Victoria—(6) Green, many seed stalks

SPINACH

- Dark Green Bloomsdale—43 (9, 14) Savoy; for spring crop
Long Standing Bloomsdale—48 (4, 6, 7, 8, 14, 15) Savoy; stands fairly well in heat
Melody—43 (3, 6, 7, 9, 13, 14, 15) Semi-savoy; for spring or fall crop
Winter Bloomsdale—45 (1, 3, 6, 9, 13, 14) Savoy; for fall crop

SQUASH (Summer)

- Elite—48 (9) Zucchini type, dark green
Select—47 (15) Zucchini type, dark green
Senator—45 (5, 13) Zucchini type, dark green
Lemondrop L—45 (5) Yellow straightneck

- Gold Rush—52 (1, 3, 7, 13, 14, 15)
Yellow straightneck

- Dixie—45 (5) Yellow crookneck

- Sundance—52 (1, 13, 14, 15)
Yellow crookneck

- Yellow Crookneck—55 (4) Yellow crookneck

SQUASH (Winter)

- Table Ace—78 (1, 3, 7, 9, 14, 15)
Acorn; semi-bush type

- Table Queen—90 (3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 12, 13, 15) Acorn; vine type

- Tay Belle—70 (5) Acorn; semi-bush type

- Burgess Strain—100 (1, 3, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15) Buttercup

- Hercules—100 (4, 12, 13) Butternut

- Ponca—85 (1, 12, 13, 14) Butternut, early

- Waltham—100 (1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15) Butternut

- NK 530—110 (12) Processing

- NK 580—110 (12, 14) Processing

SWEET POTATO

- Centennial

- Carver

- Georgia Jet

- Jewel

- Regal

- Travis

TOMATOES (Fresh Market)

- Count II—80 (1) Jointless; large firm fruit; medium size determinate plants

- Duke—75 (1, 14) Jointless; small determinate plants; large solid fruit

- Floramerica—80 (1, 3, 6, 14, 15)
Main season; large fruit

- Jackpot—75 (1, 7, 8, 13, 14, 15)
Small determinate plants; very firm fruit

Mountain Pride—**85** (1, 3, 5, 14)
Late

Pik-Red—**75** (9) Small determinate
plants; firm, large fruit

Sunny—**82** (5) Main season;
medium size, determinate plants;
large fruit

TOMATOES (Processing)

FM 6203—(2, 8) Main-early,
square-round

Heinz 722—(2) Main, pear, jointless

Heinz 2653—(2) Early, blocky,
jointless

Ohio 7814—(2) Early-main, ovate,
jointless

Ohio 7870—(2) Main-early, ovate

Peto 95—(2) Early, square

WATERMELON

Crimson Sweet—**97** (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6,
7, 8, 9, 12, 14, 15) Medium size fruit

Jubilee—**95** (1, 5, 7, 8, 9, 14)
Medium to large fruit

Mirage—**85** (5) Medium size fruit

Summer Festival—**88** (3, 9)
Medium to large fruit

Sweet Baby—**86** (1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9)
Small fruit

Seed Sources

1. Abbott & Cobb, Inc.
P.O. Box 307
Feasterville, PA 19047
215-245-6666
517-626-6020 (Michigan)
2. ADI Distributors, Inc.
P.O. Box 643
Carmel, IN 46032
317-844-8221
3. Agway, Inc.
Route 4, Zeager Road
Elizabethtown, PA 17022
717-367-1075
4. Arco Seeds
P.O. Box 181
El Centro, CA 92244
714-352-2081
517-793-9389 (Michigan)
5. Asgrow Seed Co.
P.O. Box 8
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
800-233-1056
6. Burpee Seed Co.
300 Park Avenue
Warminster, PA 18974
800-523-5389
7. Erb Lumber
2850 S. Division
Grand Rapids, MI 49508
616-241-6645
8. Ferry-Morse Seed Co., Inc.
P.O. Box 431
Orchard Park, NY 14127
716-662-9301
9. Harris-Moran Seed Co.
3670 Buffalo Road
Rochester, NY 14624
716-594-9411
616-957-5021 (W. Michigan)
313-383-5773 (E. Michigan)
10. Krummrey Farms
13900 M-106, Box 137
Stockbridge, MI 49285
517-851-7550
11. Michigan Asparagus Research
Committee
P.O. Box 30960
7373 W. Saginaw Hwy.
Lansing, MI 48909
517-323-7000
12. Northrup King Co.
P.O. Box 1827
Gilroy, CA 95021
13. Seedway, Inc.
Hall, NY 14463
716-526-6391
14. Siegers Seed Co.
7245 Imlay City Road
Imlay City, MI 48444
313-724-3155
15. Stokes Seeds, Inc.
737 Main Street, Box 548
Buffalo, NY 14240
416-685-4255

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