Garden Overview

Location Information

Location: Moncton, New Brunswick E1E 2A2

Climate Zone: 4a-6a
Last Spring Frost: May 10
First Fall Frost: October 01

Selected Plants (3 varieties)

Cabbage Eggplant Kale

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Cabbage

Plant Information

Sun Requirements: full sun

Water Needs: moderate to high

Days to Harvest: 70

Plant Spacing: 15 inches **Planting Depth:** 0.5 inches

Planting Schedule

Direct Sow Outdoors: May 01

Harvest Period: July 10 to August 15

Growing Instructions

Soil Preparation

Test soil pH to 6.0-6.5 using digital meter 2-3 weeks before planting Work 2-3 inches compost into top 8 inches soil when temperature reaches 50°F Choose location with full sun receiving 6-8 hours direct sunlight daily

Planting

Start Cabbage seeds indoors 6-8 weeks before 2025-05-10 at 70-75°F soil temperature Sow seeds 0.5 inches deep with 15 inch spacing between plants

Transplant outdoors 2 weeks after 2025-05-10 when nighttime temperatures stay above 50°F

Care & Maintenance

Water Cabbage deeply 1-1.5 inches per week checking soil moisture 2 inches deep every 3 days Apply 10-10-10 fertilizer at 2 tablespoons per plant every 3 weeks starting 2 weeks after transplant Mulch with 2-3 inches organic matter keeping 6 inches away from plant stem

Harvesting

Begin harvesting Cabbage approximately 70 days after transplant when fruits reach full size Harvest in early morning 6-8 AM when temperatures below 75°F for best quality and flavor Cut stems with clean sharp shears 1/4 inch above leaf node to encourage continued production

Pest & Disease Management

Inspect Cabbage weekly for common zone 4a-6a pests from May through September Apply neem oil spray at 2 tablespoons per gallon water every 14 days if pests detected Use floating row covers first 3 weeks after transplant to prevent early season pest damage

Eggplant

Plant Information

Sun Requirements: full sun **Water Needs:** moderate

Days to Harvest: 85

Plant Spacing: 24 inches **Planting Depth:** 0.25 inches

Planting Schedule

Direct Sow Outdoors: May 01

Harvest Period: July 25 to September 10

Growing Instructions

Soil Preparation

Test soil pH to 6.0-6.8 using digital meter 2-3 weeks before planting Work 2-3 inches compost into top 8 inches soil when temperature reaches 50°F Choose location with full sun receiving 6-8 hours direct sunlight daily

Planting

Start Eggplant seeds indoors 6-8 weeks before 2025-05-10 at 70-75°F soil temperature Sow seeds 0.25 inches deep with 24 inch spacing between plants Transplant outdoors 2 weeks after 2025-05-10 when nighttime temperatures stay above 50°F

Care & Maintenance

Water Eggplant deeply 1-1.5 inches per week checking soil moisture 2 inches deep every 3 days Apply 10-10-10 fertilizer at 2 tablespoons per plant every 3 weeks starting 2 weeks after transplant Mulch with 2-3 inches organic matter keeping 6 inches away from plant stem

Harvesting

Begin harvesting Eggplant approximately 85 days after transplant when fruits reach full size Harvest in early morning 6-8 AM when temperatures below 75°F for best quality and flavor Cut stems with clean sharp shears 1/4 inch above leaf node to encourage continued production

Pest & Disease Management

Inspect Eggplant weekly for common zone 4a-6a pests from May through September Apply neem oil spray at 2 tablespoons per gallon water every 14 days if pests detected Use floating row covers first 3 weeks after transplant to prevent early season pest damage

Kale

Plant Information

Sun Requirements: full sun **Water Needs:** moderate

Days to Harvest: 55

Plant Spacing: 12 inches **Planting Depth:** 0.5 inches

Planting Schedule

Direct Sow Outdoors: April 15

Harvest Period: June 20 to August 01

Growing Instructions

Soil Preparation

Test soil pH to 6.0-7.5 using digital meter 2-3 weeks before planting Work 2-3 inches compost into top 8 inches soil when temperature reaches 50°F Choose location with full sun receiving 6-8 hours direct sunlight daily

Planting

Start Kale seeds indoors 6-8 weeks before 2025-05-10 at 70-75°F soil temperature Sow seeds 0.5 inches deep with 12 inch spacing between plants Transplant outdoors 2 weeks after 2025-05-10 when nighttime temperatures stay above 50°F

Care & Maintenance

Water Kale deeply 1-1.5 inches per week checking soil moisture 2 inches deep every 3 days Apply 10-10-10 fertilizer at 2 tablespoons per plant every 3 weeks starting 2 weeks after transplant Mulch with 2-3 inches organic matter keeping 6 inches away from plant stem

Harvesting

Begin harvesting Kale approximately 55 days after transplant when fruits reach full size Harvest in early morning 6-8 AM when temperatures below 75°F for best quality and flavor Cut stems with clean sharp shears 1/4 inch above leaf node to encourage continued production

Pest & Disease Management

Inspect Kale weekly for common zone 4a-6a pests from May through September Apply neem oil spray at 2 tablespoons per gallon water every 14 days if pests detected Use floating row covers first 3 weeks after transplant to prevent early season pest damage

Planting Calendar for 4a-6a

April

• **Kale:** Direct Sow (April 15)

May

Cabbage: Direct Sow (May 01)Eggplant: Direct Sow (May 01)

June

• **Kale:** Harvest Begins (June 20)

July

Cabbage: Harvest Begins (July 10)Eggplant: Harvest Begins (July 25)

*** Important Frost Dates**

Last Spring Frost: May 10
 First Fall Frost: October 01

Garden Layout Guide

Plant Spacing Guide

Plant Spacing Depth Sun Water

Cabbage 15 inches 0.5 inches full sun moderate to high

Eggplant 24 inches 0.25 inches full sun moderate **Kale** 12 inches 0.5 inches full sun moderate

Layout Tips

- Plant tall crops on the north side to avoid shading shorter plants
- Group plants with similar water needs together
- Consider companion planting benefits
- Leave pathways for easy access and maintenance