

URBAN FARMER

LOVE THE EARTH

Growing and Harvesting in Arkansas

Arkansas ranges in USDA Hardiness Zones 6-8, with many of the state's cities' last frost dates in early to mid-April and first frost dates in late October. Northern Arkansas falls into USDA Hardiness Zone 6, whereas central Arkansas falls into Zone 7 and southern Arkansas is warmer and falls into Zone 8. These zones will serve as guides to when to plant certain vegetables. Because of its varying zones, a lot of Arkansas produce is sold around the nation.

What to plant and when:

Arkansas has a long growing season, which allows both fall and summer vegetables to be grown at different calendar times. Here is a brief guide on what vegetables to plant as seeds outdoors in the garden and when. The planting timing will vary depending on when the ground becomes workable:

February-April: Plant cool-season vegetables like kale, lettuce, mustard greens, peas, turnips, spinach, radish, beets, broccoli, cabbage, Brussels sprouts and more. If you reside in the warmer zones, such as Zones 7 and 8, plant seeds in February. For Zone 6, you can plant these seeds as late as April.

April-May: In some parts of the state, radish seeds can be planted into May. This period is when a gardener should begin planting the warmer weather crops as seeds in the garden. These crops include beans, collards, cantaloupe, cucumber, eggplant, okra and peppers. If you reside in Zone 6, don't begin planting these items until May. In hotter zones, some of these



[Arkansas Planting Calendar on ufseeds.com](http://ufseeds.com)

vegetables can be started indoors as early as February.

August-October: This is another season to plant cool-weather crops. In Zone 6, begin planting crops grown in the spring like radish, spinach and kale in August. For Zone 7, the seed planting date may stretch closer to September, and for Zone 9 don't plant cool-weather plants until September.

Arkansas' soil and how it affects agriculture:

Much of Arkansas's soil is acidic. A garden should usually have a soil pH between 5.8 and 6.8, but some vegetables range in this requirement. If you do not want to amend your soil, be sure to test the pH. If it comes back more acidic, be sure to only plant vegetables or fruits that are known to thrive in the level of acidity. However, you can amend acidic Arkansas soil with lime. This process takes up to eight weeks, and the lime should be applied to the soil in



100%
Non-GMO Seed



One Day
Shipping



100%
Satisfaction Guarantee



Family
Owned +Operated

URBAN FARMER

LOVE THE EARTH

the late fall so it can add nutrients and bring the soil level to a more neutral position before planting season arrives in the spring. In addition to bringing the soil acidity to a more neutral number, lime adds calcium to the soil, which is an important nutrient for plants. If you do not need to add lime to create a more neutral soil but you do want to add calcium, opt to amend the soil with gypsum instead, as it also adds calcium to the soil.

Much of Arkansas's agriculture is grown in the Mississippi River Alluvial Plain along the east side of the state. This is because most of the soil in this area was formed by depositions from the Mississippi river and contains many different physical properties which makes it better soil.

Arkansas' number-one industry is agriculture, and a lot of this is due to the rich soil in many parts of the state. However, in some areas such as the Ozarks and other mountain regions, the soil consists of sandstone, shale, limestone and more, creating a soil consistency that is rocky or gravelly. This is not prime soil for growing crops.

Eastern Arkansas has Loess soils, which are typically formed from dust storms. Loess soil is very silty. Another soil type in Arkansas is the alluvial soils, which are range from a clayey consistency to fine sand. These are often found in river valleys all over the state, and the alluvial soils are what makes up the Mississippi Alluvial Plain.



[Vegetable seeds and plants available at ufseeds.com](http://ufseeds.com)

Average rainfall in different sections of Arkansas:

Arkansas receives more precipitation than some southern states, and some of that precipitation is considered snowfall. Yearly precipitation is pretty consistent throughout the entire state of Arkansas.

In northern Arkansas, precipitation amounts range from 48.2 inches to 57.1 inches. In southern Arkansas, average precipitation ranges from 49.7 inches to 53.5 inches. In central Arkansas, average precipitation ranges from 48.4 to 59.2 inches per year.

Check out our wide selection of vegetable seeds and plants at ufseeds.com!



100%
Non-GMO Seed



One Day
Shipping



100%
Satisfaction Guarantee



Family
Owned +Operated