URBAN FARMER

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Growing and Harvesting in Wyoming

Wyoming is a cooler state, ranging from USDA Hardiness Zones 3 through 6. Zones grow warmer as the state progress south. Average first and last frost dates can vary per different areas of the state, so be on the lookout for where your city is located so you can plant and harvest at the correct time and not allow the frost to damage your crops. First frost dates can be as early as early September in Laramie and as late as mid-September in Rock Springs. Last frost dates can be as early as mid-May in Casper and as late as early June in Laramie.

What to plant and when:

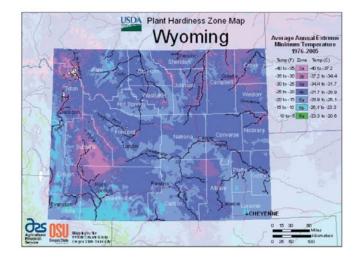
Different USDA Hardiness Zones means different growing conditions for each zone. Pay attention to the following chart so you know the best time to plant certain vegetables in Wyoming's environment.

Zone 3:

- April: Begin tomatoes and pepper plants inside.
- May: Begin spinach, peas, lettuce, kale, cauliflower, cabbage, Brussels sprouts, broccoli and beets inside. Plant potatoes outside.
- June: Transplant tomatoes, peppers, spinach, peas, lettuce, kale, cauliflower, cabbage, Brussels sprouts, broccoli and beets outside. Begin beans, cucumbers and carrots inside.
- **July:** Plant beans, cucumbers and carrots outside.

Zone 4:

 April: Begin beets, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, kale, onions, peas,



Wyoming Planting Calendar on ufseeds.com

peppers, spinach and tomatoes inside. Plant potatoes outside.

- May: Plant beets, broccoli, carrots, kale, lettuce, peas and spinach outside.
- June: Begin beans inside. Plant Brussels sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower, onions, peppers and tomatoes outside. Begin corn, squash and cucumbers inside.
- **July:** Plant beans, corn, cucumbers and squash outside. Begin beets, broccoli, carrots, kale, lettuce and spinach inside.
- August: Plant beets, broccoli, carrots, kale, lettuce and spinach inside.

Zone 5:.

- March: Begin broccoli inside.
- April: Begin beets, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, kale, lettuce, onions, peas, peppers, spinach and tomatoes inside. Plant broccoli outside.
- May: Begin beans, corn, cucumbers and squash inside. Plant beets, broccoli, carrots, kale, lettuce, peas and spinach









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outside.

- June: Plant Brussels sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower, onions, peppers and tomatoes outside.
- **July:** Plant corn, cucumbers and squash outside. Begin beets, broccoli, kale, lettuce, peas and spinach inside.
- August: Plant beets, broccoli, kale, lettuce, peas and spinach outside. Begin carrots inside.
- September: Plant carrots outside.

Zone 6:

- March: Begin beets, broccoli, cauliflower, kale, lettuce, onions, peas, spinach and other cool-weather crops inside at this time.
- April: Transplant beets, broccoli, cauliflower, kale, peas and spinach outdoors. Begin carrots, tomatoes and peppers inside.
- May: Transplant carrots and onions outdoors. Begin squash, corn, cucumbers, beans, Brussels sprouts and cabbage indoors.
- June: Transplant peppers and tomatoes outdoors.
- July: Transplant beans, cabbage,
 Brussels sprouts, corn, cucumbers and
 squash outdoors. Begin spinach, carrots,
 beets and broccoli indoors to start the fall
 harvest crops.
- August: Begin kale, lettuce and peas indoors. Transplant spinach outdoors.
- September: Transplant kale, lettuce, peas, carrots, broccoli and beets outdoors.

Wyoming's soil and how it affects agriculture:

Wyoming has quite the interesting range of



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dominant soil orders throughout the state, some areas even consisting of rock and not soil. Certain soil orders can call for the need to amend soil to best grow vegetables, while others are fine on their own.

Inceptisols: These soils are only present in the very northwest corner of the state. Inceptisols are the most common soil across the earth, and they have decent drainage. They can grow crops decently well.

Aridisols: These soils are mostly common in the center of the state, as well as stretching into the northwestern corner. These are dry, desert-like soils without much organic content.

Entisols: These soils are very present in the western half of Wyoming, and they also take up a good chunk along the upper half of the eastern border. Entisols are sometimes able to be used for crop growth, although some types of these soils are sandy or shallow and don't hold moisture well.







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Mollisols: These soils are mostly present in the southeastern and northwestern corners of the state. These soils are fertile and excellent for crop growth. Mollisols are darker in color than most soils.

Alfisols: These soils aren't very common in Wyoming, only appearing in small patches in the center of the northern border and in the northwestern corner. Alifisols are fertile soils that are excellent for crop growth. Rock: Wyoming has rock in certain patches in the northwest corner of the state. As plants cannot be grown in rock environments, you will need to create raised beds or other means to grow your vegetables here.

Average rainfall in Wyoming:

Rainfall is pertinent to vegetable growth, and Wyoming doesn't always receive very much. Because of this, you may have to water your crops more frequently throughout the year. In northwest Wyoming, average annual precipitation varies from 10.6 inches a year in Cody to 25.4 inches a year in Yellowstone Park. In southwest Wyoming, average annual rainfall varies from 7.5 inches a year in the Fontenelle Reservoir Dam to 12.2 inches a year in Evanston. In northcentral Wyoming, average annual rainfall varies from 7.6 inches a year in Worland to 20.1 inches a year in the Burgess Junction. In northeast Wyoming, average annual precipitation varies from 13.2 inches a year in Buffalo to 19.2 inches a year in Sundance. In southeast Wyoming, average annual rainfall varies from 9.3 inches a year in Rawlins to 15.9 inches a year in Cheyenne.



USDA Hardiness Gardening Zone Finder on ufseeds.com

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