120 E 161st Street, Westfield, Indiana 46074
Phone: 317-600-2807 • Email: customerservice@ufseeds.com
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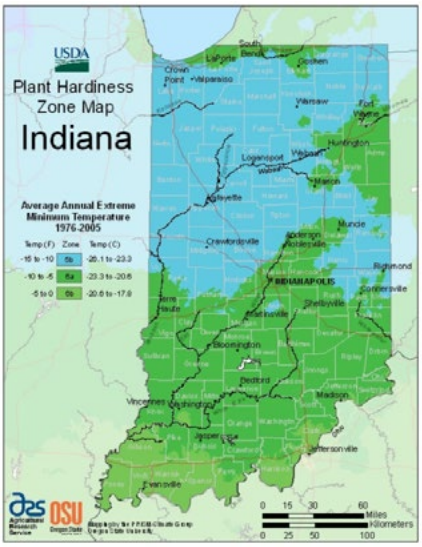
URBAN FARMER
LOVE THE EARTH

Growing and Harvesting in Indiana

Indiana has a fairly limited range of USDA Hardiness Zones, with the state including only zones 5 and 6. Weather increases in heat and zone the further south in the state the gardener goes. Some portions in the very tip of the state is in zone 6, as well as the northeastern corner. Other than those areas, zone 5 includes most of northern and central Indiana and zone 6 includes the southern half of the state. First frost dates don't begin until October and range from early October to late October depending on which zone you reside in. Last frost dates will vary from mid-April into May.



Indiana Planting Calendar on ufseeds.com

What to plant and when:

Since Indiana only has two USDA Hardiness Zones, the planting schedules don't vary too much based on location in the state.

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

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Indiana's soil and how it affects agriculture:

Indiana is famous for mass-grown crops such as corn and soybeans, mostly because the state's soils are very fertile. The three main types of Indiana soil are clay, sandy or Miami soils. The state soil is Miami soil, which is fertile, and often used for fields of corn, soybeans and winter wheat. This is the type of soil that allows Indiana to be recognized nationwide for its agriculture. Miami soils consist of brown silt loam, yellow-brown clay loam and brown loam, which allows the soil to both hold and drain water very effectively which is what makes it so healthy for agriculture use and crop growth.

Sandy soils are more dominant in the northern parts of the state as sand is present near Lake Michigan. Sandy soils also are present in southwestern and northcentral Indiana. Sandy soils can be used for growth if the conditions are right. For example, near the Indiana Dunes in northwestern Indiana, the soil is wet and reduced near Lake Michigan, making it unsuitable for crops. However, on the south side of Lake Michigan where the sand dunes are smaller, the soil doesn't get as wet. This makes it suitable to grow some crops.

Clay soil is very present throughout the state. In clay soils, the particles of the soil are packed down which makes the soil not drain well. This makes clay soil hard to grow crops in, but when the soils are dug up or tilled, it breaks up the particles and makes them usable. Clay soils also can be amended by adding manure or compost to increase

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the amount of organic matter. However, for a good loamy soil, clay is a necessary ingredient so the clayey soils of Indiana do not prohibit good crop growth if amended correctly. Loamy soils are the types of soils farmers and gardeners desire to grow crops in. If treated well, clayey soils will grow better crops than sandy soils.

Average rainfall in Indiana:

Average yearly precipitation in Indiana includes the state's snowfall. In northern Indiana, yearly precipitation varies from 38 inches to 40.8 inches a year. In central Indiana, yearly precipitation varies from 38.9 inches a year to 43.8 inches a year. In southern Indiana, yearly precipitation is slightly higher than other parts of the state. It varies from 43.2 inches a year to 48.4 inches a year.

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