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MORE AND BETTER VICTORY GARDENS NEEDED IN 1945

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: Victory garden production is expected :
: to contribute materially in keeping the :
: 1945 nutrition level above that of the :
: prewar period, 1935-39. :
:
: Larger noncivilian requirements than in :
: 1944 are in prospect for canned fruits :
: and vegetables, evaporated milk, and :
: chicken, so supplies of these foods may :
: be somewhat shorter. :
:
: The National Food Situation :
: April-May 1945 :
:

Recommended for summer and fall by the United States Government

Victory Garden Committee

Washington 25, D.C.

May 23, 1945

✓ War Food Administration

JUN 20 1945

More and better victory gardens are needed now than ever before. The food situation is such that every family with suitable open garden space at home, or with convenient access to vacant lot or community gardens, should have an adequate victory garden. This is more urgent than in any year since war started. The requirements of our armed forces will not be lessened much by the defeat of Germany. The need of food by the people of some European countries is greater than some of us had expected. Meanwhile, in this country, planting has been delayed and growing conditions have been poor in many large areas. Continued cold weather and rain have made it impossible for many people to plant, or to re-plant gardens injured by frost.

In spite of the difficulties, it would be a most serious mistake to give up the garden now. Every garden leader, every extension agent, everyone sponsoring the victory garden program should do everything possible to fill the ranks of victory gardeners. The situation calls for more gardens than the 18,500,000 we had last year.

There is still ample time to have fine victory gardens. In most places it is too late now to plant the early vegetables such as peas, green onions, radishes, and lettuce. But there are many kinds of vegetables that can be planted in late May, June and July. Every effort should be made to plant and replant a garden and keep it producing all summer and throughout as much of the year as possible. In small gardens valuable ground should not be sacrificed to grow the crops that require a large space, such as sweet corn, potatoes, squash, cucumbers. Rather the garden should be devoted to growing crops of snap and lima beans, carrots, beets, turnips, rutabaga, cabbage, collards, kale, mustard, Chinese cabbage, fall lettuce, endive, New Zealand spinach, chard and others. Then, of course, victory gardeners should go heavy on tomatoes. The fruit supply promises to be none too plentiful this year. Tomatoes furnish good supplies of Vitamin C, and they do well in a pinch as a substitute for preserved fruit and jam for spreads for winter use.

Victory gardens should supply large quantities of tomatoes and beans for canning. Housewives are being called upon to exceed their usual home canning this summer and fall, using every favorable turn of the market and local supplies of fruits and vegetables to supplement what the victory garden yields.

The following table shows among other things the average number of days required for maturing some vegetable crops. This, supplemented by the table of latest safe-planting dates for vegetables included in Growing Vegetables in Town and City, Miscellaneous Publication No. 538, U.S. Department of Agriculture, should guide victory gardeners in planning their gardens for summer and fall. The State colleges of agriculture and State and county extension agents have similar materials available.

This should be our biggest victory garden year. Rather than being discouraged, or assuming that gardens are not needed because Germany has quit, every family that wishes to be sure of a better and surer supply of some vital foods, as well as to help the nation meet its food requirements, should really garden now, this summer, next fall, and in the South, all winter. And every family should also can a variety of fruits and vegetables in large quantities.

REFERENCE TABLE FOR VEGETABLE PLANTING

	Days to yield	From Plants: or Seeds	Rows Apart	Plants: Apart in Row	Seed for 50 feet
			Feet	Inches	
Beans, bush	50-70	S	2- 2 1/2	3-4	4 oz.
Beans, pole	65-80	S	3- 4	:9 (orhills	4 oz.
Lima beans, bush:	65-75	S	2- 2 1/2	3-4	4 oz.
Lima beans, pole:	80-90	S	3- 4	:9 (orhills	4 oz.
Beet	60-75	S	1 1/2-2	3-4	1/2 oz.
Beet, chard	50 & on	S	2	15	1/2 oz.
Broccoli	70-80	P	2	18	1 pkt.
Cabbage, early	65-75	P	2	12	1 pkt.
Cabbage, late	80-100	P	2	18	1 pkt.
Chinese cabbage	75-85	S	2	12	1 pkt.
Carrot	60-75	S	1 1/2	3	1 pkt.
Collard	90 & on	S	2 1/2	24	1 pkt.
Corn, early	70-80	S	2 1/2	9	1 oz.
Corn, main crop	80-95	S	3	12	1 oz.
Eggplant	70-85	P	3	30	1 pkt.
Endive	70-80	S	1 1/2	9	1 pkt.
Kale	70-80	S	2 1/2	24	1 pkt.
Kohlrabi	55-65	S	2	8	1 pkt.
Lettuce, leaf	45-50	S	2	12	1 pkt.
Lettuce, head	50-70	P	2	12	1 pkt.
Mustard	60-75	S	2	9	1 pkt.
Parsnip	80-100	S	1 1/2	4	1 pkt.
Pepper	65-80	P	2 1/2	24	1 pkt.
Spinach	40-50	S	1 1/2	6	1 pkt.
Spinach, New Zealand	70-80	S	3	; 20	1 pkt.
Tomato	75-90	P	3-4	36	1 pkt.
Turnip	50-80	S	1 1/2	4-6	1 pkt.
Turnip, rutabaga	80-90	S	2	6	1 pkt.

(Taken from Seed Buyer's Guide, 1945
Published by The Seed World)