

Planting calendar

If you are planning to plant seedlings rather than grow from seed, allow an extra 3–4 weeks for planting.

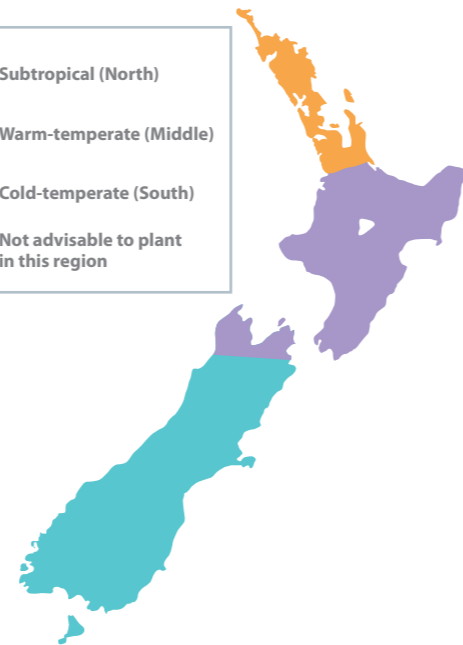
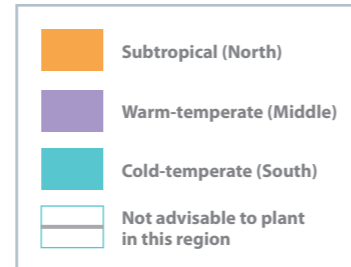
New Zealand is a country that has a lot of regional and local differences in terms of climate and soils. This planting calendar is a guide to help you to know what to plant and when to sow, as well as when crops are usually harvested.

With regard to sowing and planting, these mean different things. Sowing refers to the sowing of seeds and planting refers to either ready-grown seedlings or the actual planting of a bulb or tuber, such as garlic or potatoes. Seeds can take time to germinate: allow about a month for seedlings to appear and reach a growth stage equivalent to the ready-bought seedling. There will always be a debate over growing your own vegetable plants from seed versus buying ready-grown seedlings. Yes, seed is the cheaper option, but the trade-off is that seedlings are quicker, and living in a time-poor society it's no surprise that seedling sales continue to grow. And they are proving to be the easier option for novice gardeners getting started in growing their own crops and herbs.

Be aware with this planting calendar that climatic variations exist and can and will affect crop timing and performance. If in doubt, ask a local or an experienced gardener living in your area about any variations that may have an impact on the growing season.

Growth rates can also vary throughout the year. Be aware that even though you can sow and grow some crops all year round, the growth rate in winter slows down as the temperatures drop. Sometimes crops planted in May and August, such as broccoli, may mature at the same time, which isn't a problem for those with large gardens and plenty of space. But for those who have limited space the area that broccoli took up over winter could have been more useful to plant another crop in.

Subtropical (North) – the warmest parts of the country, where temperatures rarely get anywhere



close to freezing. Average growing season temperatures range from 15 to 30 °C. Moderate–high humidity. Main growing season is from August to June.

Warm-temperate (Middle) – cool winters and warm summers. Temperatures in spring and summer range from 10 to 25 °C and will get down to freezing in winter in some areas. Main growing season is from mid-September to May/June.

Cold-temperate (South) – cold winters and warm summers. Not an overly long growing period in relation to the other regions. Cold winters are ideal for crops that need winter chilling. No humidity. Main growing season is from October/November to April/May.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Asparagus												
Sowing/planting												
Harvesting												
Sowing/planting												
Harvesting												
Sowing/planting												
Harvesting												

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Beetroot												
Sowing/planting												
Harvesting												
Sowing/planting												
Harvesting												
Sowing/planting												
Harvesting												
Bok choy												
Sowing/planting												
Harvesting												
Sowing/planting												
Harvesting												
Sowing/planting												
Harvesting												
Broad bean												
Sowing/planting												
Harvesting												
Sowing/planting												
Harvesting												
Sowing/planting												
Harvesting												
Broccoli												
Sowing/planting												
Harvesting												
Sowing/planting												
Harvesting												
Sowing/planting												
Harvesting												
Brussels sprout												
Sowing/planting												
Harvesting												
Sowing/planting												
Harvesting												
Sowing/planting												
Harvesting												
Cabbage												
Sowing/planting												
Harvesting												
Sowing/planting												
Harvesting												
Sowing/planting												
Harvesting												
Capsicum												
Sowing/planting												
Harvesting												
Sowing/planting												
Harvesting												
Sowing/planting												
Harvesting												

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Tomatillo												
Sowing/planting												
Harvesting												
Sowing/planting												
Harvesting												
Sowing/planting												
Harvesting												
Tomato												
Sowing/planting												
Harvesting												
Sowing/planting												
Harvesting												
Sowing/planting												
Harvesting												
Yam												
Sowing/planting												
Harvesting												
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Harvesting												
Sowing/planting												
Harvesting												