



Vegetables Recommended for Virginia

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Introduction

In 2025, a multi-year Community Engaged Research (CEnR) project was initiated to evaluate vegetable varieties commonly grown in the Commonwealth. Home gardeners participated by rating varieties on yield, taste, and overall performance.

This publication summarizes results from the first year of trials. While these findings represent an initial step, ongoing evaluations will provide even stronger guidance to help answer the question: “*What variety should I grow?*”

For detailed annual reports and information on individual varieties, visit the [Home Vegetable Variety Trials](http://ext.vt.edu/lawn-garden/home-vegetables/Home_Vegetable_Variety_Trials.html) website (ext.vt.edu/lawn-garden/home-vegetables/Home_Vegetable_Variety_Trials.html).

How to Use the Table

The table below (Table 1) includes disease resistance information to assist Virginia home gardeners in selecting varieties. Disease-resistant cultivars provide the most effective protection against many serious vegetable diseases. While not completely immune, these varieties carry genetic traits that allow them to keep producing even under high disease pressure. Choosing resistant varieties greatly increases the chances of a healthy, productive harvest.

The average days to harvest shown here reflect data from our trials and may differ from published descriptions. This information offers a more accurate picture of how each variety performs in Virginia gardens.

Rating and recommendation are based on evaluations by participants in the annual Virginia Home Vegetable Variety trial. The Overall Rating score uses a scale from 1 (poor performance) to 10 (excellent performance). The Recommendation score represents the percentage of respondents who indicated they *would recommend* the variety, based on trial evaluations.

Additional Resources

A previous version of this publication, authored by Charles R. O’Dell and Diane Relf, Horticulture Extension Specialists at Virginia Tech, was last updated and published in 2009. While this edition is outdated, it may still serve as a useful reference for those seeking information on vegetable varieties for Virginia home gardens. To access this resource, visit VTechWorks, Virginia Tech’s institutional repository, which provides open access to scholarly works. (vtechworks.lib.vt.edu/items/0247671e-2a4f-4dc2-a0b5-0d74febf28b5).

The Virginia Cooperative Extension publication [426-331 - Virginia’s Home Garden Vegetable Planting Guide](http://pubs.ext.vt.edu/426/426-331/426-331.html) (pubs.ext.vt.edu/426/426-331/426-331.html) can be used to determine quantities to plant

Table 1: Variety Recommendations

Type	Variety	Resistant to the Following	Average Days to Harvest	Overall Rating (scale 1-10)	Recommended	Years Evaluated
Bean, bush	Blue Lake Bush 274	Bean Common Mosaic Virus, Powdery Mildew	56	6.44	91%	2025
Bean, bush	Provider	No known resistance	59	5.97	78%	2025
Cucumber, burpless	Marketmore 76	Cucumber Mosaic Virus, Powdery Mildew, Scab	64	6.13	82%	2025
Cucumber, burpless	Wautoma	Anthracnose, Angular Leaf Spot, Cucumber Mosaic Virus, Downy Mildew, Powdery Mildew, Scab	63	6.17	88%	2025
Herb, basil	Genovese	No known resistance	55	7.137	84%	2025
Herb, basil	Sweet Basil	No known resistance	56	6.307	82%	2025
Pepper, bell	California Wonder 300	Tabacco mosaic virus	79	4.688	72.5%	2025
Pepper, bell	King Arthur	Bacterial Leaf Spot, Potato Virus Y	71	4.826	77.5%	2025
Squash, green zucchini	Black Beauty	No known resistance	54	4.84	67.5%	2025
Squash, green zucchini	Dunja	Powdery Mildew, Papaya Ringspot Virus, Watermelon mosaic virus, Zucchini Yellow Virus	55	4.777	77.5%	2025
Tomato, beefsteak, determinate	Celebrity Plus	Alternaria, Fusarium Wilt, Fusarium Crown and Root Rot, Gray Leaf Spot, Nematode Tobacco mosaic virus, Tomato spotted wilt virus, Verticillium	83	5.465	78.3%	2025
Tomato, beefsteak, determinate	Jolene	Fusarium Wilt, Fusarium Crown and Root Rot, Tomato Yellow Leaf Curl Virus, Verticillium	80	5.135	73.9%	2025

Tomato, cherry, indeterminate	Sun Gold	Tobacco mosaic virus, Verticillium	73	6.987	84.4%	2025
Tomato, cherry, indeterminate	Supersweet 100	Fusarium Wilt, Verticillium	74	6.879	81.3%	2025

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