

# Good Root Growers

## Veggie/Herb Descriptions

Plant	Heirloom	Open Pollinated	Organic Seed	Hybrid	Days to Maturity	Avg Wt /Size	Remarks
Alliums	Leeks - King Richard		✓	✓		100 18-30"	Very dark blue/green foliage, holds in fields for fall harvest, overwinters if moderate season, mild onion flavor
	Onion - Red Storage/Red Carpet			✓	✓	118 3-1/2"	Deep maroon-skinned, with juicy, firm, thick rings, heavy, long, harvest, ultra-reliable red keeper
	Onion - Yellow Storage/Cortland		✓	✓		105 3-4"	Thick copper skin, fine necks, and round shape, uniform size, adaptable, standard yellow keeper
	Walla Walla - Sweet	✓	✓			125 2"	Sweet Spanish onion, juicy and mild, not for storage
	Scallions		✓	✓		55 12"	Japanese bunching onion - mellow, sweet flavor, cold hardy
	Shallots			✓	✓	110 2"	darkest red-skinned variety available from seed, smooth onion-y taste, bulbs store through April
Brassica & Aplaceases	Broccoli - Belstar	✓	✓	✓		70 6"	Beautiful uniform blue-green heads of densely packed florets ideal for cold and warm weather planting
	Broccoli - Romanesco	✓	✓	✓		80 8"	Intriguing chartreuse color with textural whorled heads. A culinary delight since the 16th century.
	Brussel Sprouts	✓	✓	✓		100 30"	Well filled stalks of firm smooth sprouts, especially frost tolerant
	Cabbage - Green/Early Jersey	✓	✓	✓		63 5-7"	Green, uniform, compact medium 2-3 lb waxy looking heads are distinctively pointy, tender flavorful
	Cabbage - Red Rock	✓	✓			100 8-10"	Red, firm flattened round 5-8 lb heads red-purple to the core, good keeper with a crisp sweet taste
	Cauliflower - White/Amazing		✓		✓	85 6-7"	Smooth heads of tightly formed white curds are solid, crisp, and tender, excellent quality
	Kohlrabi - Green		✓	✓		63 2.5"	Pale green-skinned above ground bulbs, crisp white flesh, sweet turnip-like flavor, excellent raw or steamed
	Celery		✓	✓		80 2'	Early variety with superior flavor and more tender stalks, keep consistently moist
	Fennel		✓	✓		72 6"	Good performer - sauté with onions, sweet peppers and a little toasted sesame oil.
	Fennel - Bronze		✓	✓		72 6"	Leaf fennel with striking feathery bronze foliage - delicious and decorative
Greens	Collards	✓	✓			80 2-3'	Slow to bolt and tolerant of heat, cold, and poor soil, large cabbage-like leaves, tender, mild and juicy
	Kale - Dwarf Blue Curled Scotch		✓	✓		65 15"	Finely curled leaves, uniform low-growing with 20-35" spread, very hardy will overwinter zone 4 with mulch
	Kale - Premier Mix		✓	✓		62 20"	A fancy mix of dwarf curly, lacinato, Russian red and darf Siberian kales
	Kale - Lacinato		✓	✓		62 20"	Italian, blue-green strap-like leaves 3" wide by 10-18" long, excellent flavor, best eaten when small
	Swiss Chard - Rainbow	✓	✓	✓		60 20"	Shades of red, pink, white, yellow and gold, tender and delicious, color intensifies with delayed harvest
Slicing Tomatoes	Amana Orange	✓	✓			90 12 oz	Large-up to 2 lbs, orange beefsteak, mild, pleasant flavor
	Andrew Rahart		✓			90 1 lb	Large beefsteak slicer with a hint of tartness, intensely red, 4" fruits, high yield
	Evergreen	✓	✓	✓		75 14 oz	Green-when-ripe variety with medium-sized beefsteak fruits, tender and sweet flavor, very productive
	Beefsteak - Mark Twain	✓	✓	✓		85 1 lb	Deep red interior and full body. Crack free and tender. Will not take much handling
	Black Krim	✓	✓	✓		80 14 oz	Russian, brown/red w/brown/green shoulder, bold smoky, full flavor, large slicer
	Brandywine Red	✓	✓	✓		78 1 lb	Deep pink skin/red flesh,excellent flavor, rich, spicy
	Cherokee Purple	✓	✓	✓		77 10 oz	Flat globe, dusky pink, dark shoulder with multicolored interior, full favor. Short vines, prone to sunburn
	Delicious	✓	✓			77 1 lb	Large-up to 3 lbs, excellent slicer, large meaty full flavor fruit with minimal crack
	German Johnson	✓	✓	✓		75 1.5 lbs	Brandywine variety, deep acidic flavor, rich creamy texture. Pink parent line to Mortgage Lifter
	Hungarian Heart	✓	✓			85 14 oz	Large pink oxheart, few seeds, almost no crack, for fresh eating, canning, and roasting

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Slicing Tomatoes	Mark Twain	✓	✓	✓	85	1 lb	Beefsteak with deep red interior, ribbed fruit and full body. Crack free and tender. Thin skinned - handle with care
	Mister Stripy	✓	✓		85	1.5 lbs	Large-up to 2 lbs, red/yellow striped beefsteak, large ridge shouldered, mild, low acid
	Mortgage Lifter	✓	✓		71	2 lbs	Huge-up to 4 lbs, deep pink, meaty, crack free, old fashioned flavor, high yields
	Paul Robeson	✓	✓	✓	78	10oz	Named for an outspoken crusader for racial equality and social justice, brick red oblate fruit, deep flavored "sandwich" tomato
	Rose de Berne		✓	✓	80	6 oz	French, med size the delivers robust taste, pink and perfectly round
	Sart Reloise	✓	✓		85	12 oz	Gorgeous stained glass masterpiece with indigo brush strokes, dense beefsteak with complex sweet fruited flavor
	Wisconsin 55			✓	80	8 oz	Excellent all-purpose tomato, great for canning
Paste	Amish Paste	✓	✓	✓	85	10 oz	Best for sauces and canning, deep red fruits with "real tomato" flavor, medium acidity
	Opalka	✓	✓	✓	82	3x5"	Massive horn-shaped red fruits with dry texture and few seeds. The crinkly foliage normal, Polish heirloom
	Roma		✓	✓	65	5 oz	Paste tomato - productive with great disease resistance, thick walled, deep red with mild flavor
	San Marzano		✓	✓	78	5 oz	Slightly rectangular, bright red, extra solid, excellent flavor with balanced acidity, Determinate
Small Tomatoes	Ground Cherry - Aunt Molly's (Husk)	✓	✓	✓	70	12 gm	Polish variety prized for unique flavor, prolific, super sweet, husk turns brown when 1/2-3/4" fruit ripens
	Indigo (Cherry)		✓	✓	80	1.5 oz	Artisan dark blue anthocyanin coloration over red flesh, semi-determinate, good flavor with 'plummy' overtones
	Pink Bumblebee (Cherry)	✓	✓	✓	65	1 oz	Artisan rose colored fruits w/iridescent gold striping, sweet, juicy, crack resistant, tolerates cool night temps & hot days
	Sun Gold (Cherry)			✓	57	18 gm	Yellow/orange flesh, resists splitting, intense fruity sweet flavor
	Reisentraube (Cherry)	✓	✓		80	1.25 oz	German heirloom "giant bunch of grapes" 20-40 fruit clusters with full tomato flavor not typical in a cherry, compact indeterminate
	Tomatillos - Verde (Husk)		✓	✓	77	4 oz	For classic salsa verde, harvest slight larger than golf ball or turn yellow for tangy nutty raw snack
Basils	Large Leaf		✓		70	24-36"	The choice of many connoisseurs for making pesto. Also called Perfumed Basil – more aromatic
	Holy (Sacred)		✓	✓	100	24"	1-1/2" leaved annual, purple stems, synonymous with Tulsi tea, used medicinally for digestion and immune system
	Lemon - Mrs. Burns	✓	✓	✓	64	24-30"	1-1/2" leaved annual, intense lemony fragrance, from New Mexico
	Purple - Opal	✓	✓	✓	78	16"	3" flat, dark purple leaved annual
	Thai		✓		60	10-24"	2" leaved annual, purple stems/blooms, with anise-clove flavor
Herbs	Borage		✓	✓	55	2-3'	Cucumber flavor edible small blue flowers and young leaves, use in salads, tea, cough syrups, ice cubes
	Catnip		✓	✓	85	24"	Perennial- deer resistant, fly and mosquito repellent. 12-24" wide. Medicinally used for fever and digest aid
	Chamomile - German		✓	✓	65	24"	Fragrant self seeding annual. Small white edible flowers appear early through midsummer. Calming effect
	Chives		✓	✓	80	12-18"	Hollow, grass like leaves, hardy perennial, Asian remedy for colds and flu, enjoy fresh or dried
	Cilantro - Caribe		✓	✓	55	20-30"	Long standing annual, late to seed (for coriander), lots of flavorful foliage, chelating agent
	Dill - Bouquet		✓	✓	55	12-24"	Annual, biggest, ferniest, plant with good seed and leaf yields, most widely grown variety
	Dill - Fernleaf		✓		55	18"	Dwarf annual, slow to bolt abundant foliage for extended pickling season
	Hyssop - Anise		✓	✓	85	30"	Lemony - licorice flavored leaves & flowers, use in teas, seasonings, strengthens heart, for fevers, colds, coughs
	Lavender - Monstead		✓		110	18"	Perennial to zone 4 if mulched, compact bushy plant
	Lemon Balm		✓	✓	70	18-24"	Perennial, edible flowers, medicinally for colds, flu, headache, sedative, digestion, cold sores, antiviral
	Lemongrass		✓		85	3-4'	Pot to indoors as perennial, used for flavor, teas, medicinally for digestion, fever, anti-inflammatory
	Loveage		✓	✓	90	6-8"	Perennial leaves taste like celery, used for tonic salads, potatoes, rice, poultry, seeds in bread and pastry
	Mojito Mint		✓		85	12"	Cuban mint milder than its northern relative. Popularized drink with added rum and lime
	Marjoram		✓	✓	90	18"	Low bushy plant with trailing stems, pot to indoors as perennial, sweeter more balsam-like than oregano
	Oregano - Greek		✓	✓	80	12-24"	Perennial to zone 4, dark green leaf, white flower, medicinal for indigestion

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Herbs	Parsley - Curly	✓			75	12-16"	Dense triple-curved medium-green parsley holds its color, excellent stalk flavor
	Parsley - Leaf	✓			75	16-18"	Sweet, smallest flat leaf offered, uniform growth
	Peppermint	✓				12-24"	Perennial, true to type through propagation, excellent for culinary or medicinal use, invasive
	Pineapple Mint	✓				12-24"	Tender perennial, variegated leaves, fruity, sweet, flavorful, with a more subtle mintiness with a hint of pineapple
	Rosemary	✓	✓			12-24"	Pot to indoors as perennial, medicinally used for headaches, circulation. Sturdy straight stems used as skewers
	Sage	✓	✓		90	2-3'	Small lavender flowers, medicinally used for digestion and nerves
	Spearmint	✓				12-24"	Perennial, common mint: med-digestion, invasive
	Tarragon - French	✓				2-3'	Perennial if mulched, anise flavored herb used to flavor meats and eggs
	Thyme - English	✓	✓		90	6"	Perennial if mulched, vigorous, semi-upright plant, strong, earthy scent and flavor
	Thyme - Lemon	✓	✓		NA	7"	Variegated-upright with citrus flavor and aroma, used to season fish, salads, and vegetables
	Peppers - Sweet	Banana	✓	✓	✓	70	4-6"
Boldog Paprika		✓	✓	✓	71	4-6"	Named from a Budapest spice district – roast and peel, dry into decorative ristas, or grind into a sweet rich deeply flavored powder
Cornito Arancia				✓	75	5"	Tapered orange horn-shape fruit, versatile and tasty any way — raw, cooked, sliced, diced, sautéed, stuffed, grilled or fire-roasted
Cornito Rosso				✓	75	5"	Tapered red horn-shape fruit, versatile and tasty any way — raw, cooked, sliced, diced, sautéed, stuffed, grilled or fire-roasted
Flavorburst - Yellow Bell				✓	75	3x4"	Crisp thick walled bell pepper turning from lime green to goldenrod. Sweet peppery bite overlaid with a zesty surge of lemon
Gilboa - Orange Bell		✓	✓	✓	80	3x4"	Blocky sweet fruity-green to bright orange. Bred 1952 from Amer Cal-Wonder by Hazera youth ass'n in Ben-Shemen, Israel
Jimmy Nardello		✓	✓	✓	76	3-1/2-4"	Long curve, taper pointed, deep red/wrinkled, sweet, crisp, light pepper, excellent raw and fried
King of the North (Red Bell)		✓	✓	✓	70	3-1/2"	Best variety where seasons are cool and short. Turns green to red. Uniform fruits with a great, sweet flavor.
Lesya (Yellow Heart)			✓	✓	73	3-4"	A rare yellow heart-shaped thick-walled super sweet pepper named after its seed saver owner from Ukraine, highly productive
Purple Bell			✓	✓	74	3x3"	Good yields of blocky fruits that ripen from purple to green to deep red as they mature, fruit will turn green when cooked
Round of Hungary - Pimento		✓	✓	80	2"x4"	Early and prolific, rich fruity taste, adapted to cooler temps. Attractive container for dip	
Peppers - Heat	Anaheim	✓	✓		78	8"	Mild chile pepper turning green to red with tapered point. Famous Cultivar developed in 1900s for canning pepper 500-2500 SCU
	Beaver Dam	✓	✓		80	6"	Mildly hot and sweet, horned shaped, orange-red fruit 500-1000 SCU
	Biquinho Yellow	✓	✓		80	1"	A tiny yellow Brazilian pepper, tangy and sweet with a nice kick of heat. Avg 100 fruits per plant 500-100 SCU
	Cayenne - Joe's Long Red	✓	✓	✓	83	6"	Hot, zesty pepper just a 1/2" wide. Use in sauce or dried and ground as a peppering spice 30,000-50,000 SCU
	Habanero		✓		95	2"x1-1/4"	Super hot, peach pumpkin shaped fruits 100,000-350,000 SCU
	Hatch Chili - Big Jim (Med Heat)		✓		68	5"	Best hot pepper for cool climates, it is excellent grilled with enhanced smokiness due to high oil, easy to stuff 2500-3000 SCU
	Hatch Chili - Double Cross (Hot Heat)		✓		68	5"	Best hot pepper for cool climates, it is excellent grilled with enhanced smokiness due to high oil, easy to stuff 9000 SCU
	Hot Wax - Hungarian		✓		68	5"x1.5"	Wrinkled fruits ripen to salmon orange. Used fresh, dried or pickle. Key ingredient in Jamaican Jerk sauces 5000-10,000 SCU
	Lemon Spice (Jalapeno)		✓		72	3"	Stunning lemon yellow with a burst of fruity flavor. Prolific and early. 2500-8000 SCU
	Jalapeno	✓	✓	✓	70	3-1/2"	Most well known, thick walls, dark green color, Scoville: 3,500-6,000
	Pablano - Ancho		✓		88	6"	Classic pepper for chili relenos, turns green to red to near black, Scoville: 1,000-2,000
	Pepperoncini	✓	✓		75	2-3"	Italian pepper pickled to add to pizza and salads. thin walled, slightly bulbous end tangier than a Hot Wax 100-500 SCU
Serrano		✓	✓	85	3"	High yield, red or green peppers shaped like a Jalapeno, Scoville: 10,000-25,000	
Shishito	✓	✓	✓	60	3-4"	Small, thin-walled, very mild Japanese pepper for roasting, pan-frying and grilling. Similar to the Padron used in tapas 5-200 SCU	
Splant	Black Beauty			✓	80	1 lb	High yields, no spines, deep purple, 7" ovals
	Ping Tung			✓	65	8-10"	Asian, long cylindrical shape, distinctive fluorescent and pastel pink skin with a white flesh, few seeds

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Eg	Rosa Bianca	✓	✓	✓	82	5"x6"	Italian, plump and variably ribbed, mild, creamy taste, best adapted to warm nights with higher yields	
	Okra - Clemson Spineless	✓	✓	✓	60	3-5'	Uniform, deep green ribbed and spineless pod, harvested when 3" long, excellent quality	
SP	Peanut - Tennessee Red	✓	✓		110	18"	Valencia type-cultivate around plant allowing "pegs" to penetrate soil - fun to grow - produces w/long summer	
	Sweet Potato - Orange				90		Moist, sweet, orange fleshed, early, widely adapted for cooler climes, dig up before soil drops below 50 degrees.	
Cukes	National Pickler		✓		52	3-5'	Black spine dark green fruits are vigorous dependable producers - quality holds throughout season	
	Green Finger		✓	✓	60	14"	Thin skin, exceptional flavor, small seed cavity, high yield, long cold storage life	
	Marketmore		✓		58	8-9"	Very dark green slicer, long harvest, a standard for northern gardens, few seeds, disease resistant	
	Tasty Green		✓	✓	✓	60	9"	A slender Asian burpless variety with delicate skin and sweet flavor, shallow ridges with sweet flavor, heavy yields
Melon	Cantaloupe - Minnesota Midget	✓	✓	✓	68	4"	Sweet, extra-early variety bred by U of M, excellent choice for northern gardeners, suitable for containers	
	Muskmelon - Pride of WI	✓	✓	✓	88	5-7#	Smooth texture w/juicy sweetness, edible down to rind. Will bottom crack in wet seasons	
	Watermelon - Petite Yellow		✓	✓	73	6#	Deliciously sweet and refreshing small "icebox" melon, early maturity, adapted to shortseason areas	
	Watermelon - Sugar Baby		✓	✓	75	6-12#	Excellent short-season variety with reliable yields of sweet, juicy melons, 7-8.5" in diameter.	
Squash	Acorn	✓	✓		90	1.5-2#	Introduced by the Iowa Seed Co. in 1913 and once known as Des Moines, started trend toward smaller, 3-4 month storage	
	Black Futzu	✓	✓	✓	105	4-6#	Japanese pumpkin with irresistible sweet flesh, spectacular ornamental, halo ripens black to chestnut during winter storage	
	Buttercup - Burgess	✓	✓	✓	95	3-4#	Oscar H. Will of Bismarck-ND introduced in 1931. Sweet, deep orange, with acorn shaped, sweet or savory, shorter storage	
	Butternut - Waltham	✓	✓		105	4-5#	Orange dry flesh with a sweet nutty flavor. Excellent keeper.	
	Delicata	✓	✓	✓	100	1#	1894 heirloom – sweet flesh, oblong "boats" perfect serving dish. No peel skins tender and nutty. Med storage variety	
	Honeynut (Sm Butternut)			✓	✓	120	.5-1#	A mini Butternut with smooth tan skins and sweet flavor. Plant early to maximize ripening. Resistant to powdery mildew.
	Pie Pumpkin (New England)		✓	✓		105	5#	Classic pie pumpkin with dry, stringless flesh and superior thick consistency in pies
	Red Kuri	✓	✓			95	8-10#	Sweet rich flavor with a hint of spice with smooth orange flesh, reliable yields even in cool climates with short growing seasons.
	Spaghetti	✓	✓	✓	88	4"	Wonderful nutty flavor, a great keeper." Oblong fruits, with spaghetti-like strings in the flesh - to US 1934 from Japan	
	Zucchini - Costata (Romanesco)	✓	✓	✓	60	6-12"	Italian green zucchini, excellent texture and nutty flavor, raw or cooked	
	Zucchini - Golden	✓	✓	✓	55	6-8"	Bright yellow summer squash with heavy yields. Best when eaten under 8", crisp and mild favored	
	Zucchini - Midnight Lightening		✓	✓		55	7-8"	Extra long and slender zucchini with dark green, almost-black coloring, disease resistant