



Recommended Vegetable Cultivars for Interior Alaska

by Grant E.M. Matheke

The following vegetables have grown well at the Georgeson Botanical Garden over many years and are recommended for home gardens and small market gardens. This list is not exhaustive, and many other cultivars grow well depending on the site, soil type and use. Experimenting with new and heirloom cultivars is interesting and rewarding, but the vegetables listed have stood the test of time. They will grow well in most parts of the Tanana Valley with the right growing conditions.

Vegetable	Cultivar	Season	Comments
Artichoke			
	Green Globe	Mid-Late	Will produce artichokes grown as an annual
	Imperial Star	Mid-Late	Will produce artichokes grown as an annual
Asparagus			
	Super Male Jersey Knight	Early	Plant shallow, winter mulching
Snap Beans			
<i>Romano</i>	Bountiful	Early	Good quality, flat
	Gina	Early	Best of early Romano beans
	Roma II	Early-Mid	Italian type, flat
	Romano Gold	Early	Bush Romano wax, yellow
<i>Yellow Wax</i>	Carson	Early	Good quality, good freezer
	Goldito	Early	Smooth straight pods
	Rocdor	Early	Reliable, early
<i>Green</i>	Contender	Early	Good quality, good freezer
	Provider	Earliest	Good quality, good freezer
	Royalty Purple Pod	Early	Does well in cool soils

Tendercrop	Early	Round stringless pods, freezer
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Beet

Burpee Golden	Midseason	Yellow, round, high quality
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Chioggia	Early	Heirloom, sweet flavor, unique red white stripes when cut
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Cylindra	Midseason	Resists bolting, tender sweet, long
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Early Blood Turnip	Early-Mid	Heirloom, tendency to bolt but still has high yields
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Red Ace	Early	Round, smooth, good greens
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Broccoli

Early Dividend	Early	Large, large lateral production
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Green Valiant,	Midseason	Reliable, high quality, med-large heads
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Marathon	Late	Large heads, tolerant to cold, good Shogun substitute
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Premium Crop	Midseason	Large lateral production
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Brussels Sprouts

Jade Cross	Early	Very good, dependable
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Oliver	Early	Large, flavorful, easy to grow
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Cabbage

Deadon	Late	Hybrid, pinkish purple, slightly savoyed, January King type
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Dynamo	Early-Mid	Small head, dense
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Earliana Hybrid	Early	Small heads, good quality
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Glory of Enkuizen	Midseason	Heirloom, nice mid season cabbage
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Golden Acre	Early	Solid heads, stores well
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January King	Late	Heirloom, pinkish purple, slightly savoyed.
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O-S Cross, D, FM	Late	Giant cabbage capability
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Red Express	Early-Mid	Good early red
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Ruby Ball	Midseason	Red, small head
Ruby Perfection	Late	Red, stores well
Savoy Ace	Midseason	Best Savoy type
Savoy Express	Early	Excellent early Savoy
Stonehead	Late	Small compact heads
Tobia	Midseason	Hybrid, midseason

Carrots

Artist	Midseason	Smooth, 7-8" root
Little Finger	Midseason	3.5" root, smooth skin, small core
Minicor	Early	Baby carrots, pull at 2-3"
Nelson	Early	High quality, smooth, 6-7" root
Purple Haze	Midseason	All America Selection, unique purple color w orange core
Royal Chantenay	Late	Storage type
Scarlet Nantes	Early	Stores well, good quality
Sweet Treat	Midseason	Very sweet and crunchy, Hybrid
Thumbelina	Early	Small, round, gourmet type

Cauliflower

Andes	Midseason	Good quality, self-blanching
Amazing	Midseason	Holds up in garden
Fremont	Early	7" across, self-wrapping
Minuteman	Early	Nice wrapper leavws, self blanching
Snow Crown	Early	Good quality, dependable
White Sails	Mid-Late	Excellent

Celery

	Florida 683	Midseason	Good quality
Celery	Utah 52-70	Midseason	Dependable, good quality

Ventura Midseason Good quality

Cucumber* *Grow through clear or IRT plastic mulch*

Slicing

Early Pride	Early	White spine (slicer)
Fanfare	Early	Bush, white spine (slicer)
Salad Bush	Early	8" long, smooth skin (slicer)
Sweet Success	Early	White spine (slicer)
Sweeter Yet	Very early	10-12", crisp fruit (slicer)

Pickling

Bush Pickle	Early	Nice compact bush habit.
Little Leaf	Early	Good for pickling and fresh eating
Northern Pickling	Early	Black spine (pickler)

Eggplant* *Grow through clear or IRT plastic mulch, but all varieties are marginal in the interior*

Dusky	Early	Compact plant, glossy black fruit
Ichiban	Early	Oriental, slender 12" fruit
Orient Express	Early	Sets fruit in cool weather
Snowy	Early	White, slender eggplant

Greens

Bright Lights Chard	Midseason	All America Selection, multicolored
Chioggia Red Radicchio	Midseason	Large white ribs, dark green leaves
Green Wave	Midseason	Showy & hot
Komatsuna Summerfest	Early	Large, heavy heads, red
Neon Lights Chard	Midseason	Blend of 5 varieties, multicolored

Greens

Rhubarb Chard	Midseason	Very attractive, smaller than white
Silverado Chard	Midseason	Compact plant, slow to bolt

Tendergreen	Midseason	Good mustard
Vates Collards	Early	Mild, oriental greens, heat & disease tolerant

Kale

Red Russian	Early	Heirloom, 25 days-baby
Toscano	Midseason	Mild flavor, 30 days-baby
Winterbor	Early	Sweet after frosts

Kohlrabi

Eder	Very Early	White, tender
Grand Duke	Early	Very nice
Kolibri	Early	Very nice, purple
Early Purple Vienna	Early	Heirloom variety
Early White Vienna	Early	Heirloom variety

Leeks

Baby Lincoln	Mid-Late	Harvest finger size for baby leeks or allow to mature to full size,
Giant Musselburgh	Late	Heirloom variety, high yield
King Richard	Late	Nice long neck
Poncho	Late	Good quality, cold tolerant

Lettuce

Head	Crispino	Early	Medium sized, firm heads
	Ithaca	Midseason	Good quality and flavor, reliable
	Minigreen	Early	Good quality and flavor, short core
<i>Butterhead</i>	Buttercrunch	Midseason	All America Selection, good quality
	Ermosa	Midseason	Tolerant to tip burn & bolting
	Sangria	Midseason	Red-tipped, good quality, tolerant to bolting

<i>Romaine</i>	Parris Island Cos	Midseason	High quality, dependable
	Cimmaron Red	Midseason	Rarely bolts, good flavor, crisp
	Eruption	Midseason	Dark red bibb romaine cross. Resistant to tipburn, bolting
	Romulus	Midseason	9-12" heads, crisp
<i>Loose-leaf</i>	Salad Bowl	Early	Excellent, bolt resistant
	Red Salad Bowl	Early	Good quality, bolt resistant
	Oak Leaf	Early	Very nice quality and appearance
	Royal Oak Leaf	Early	Excellent
	Grand Rapids	Midseason	Good tolerance to tip burn
	Merlot	Midseason	Intense deep burgundy
	Ruby	Midseason	Red, good quality
	Red Sails	Early	All-America Selection, compact

Onion

<i>Bunching</i>	Hardy White	Midseason	Good quality
	He-shi-ko	Midseason	Good quality Evergreen

Sets Nearly all kinds do well

Parsnip

Hollow Crown, Improved	Late	Good quality, most dependable
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Peas

Freezonian	Late	Indeterminate type, good quality
Green Arrow	Late	Outstanding quality, long pods

Peas

Lincoln	Midseason	Good quality
Maestro	Early	First early Green Arrow type
Mr. Big	Midseason	All America Selection
Survivor	Midseason	Semi-leafless, replacement for Novella

<i>Edible pod</i>	Dwarf Grey Sugar	Early	Edible podded, dependable
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	Oregon Gian	Early	Edible podded
	Oregon Sugarpod II	Early	Edible podded
	Snow Green	Midseason	Crisp & flavorful pods
<i>Sugar Snap</i>	Sugar Ann	Early	Edible podded, like snap bean, doesn't require support
	Sugar Snap	Midseason	Edible podded, like snap bean
	Sugar Sprint Snap	Early	Sweet, almost stringless
	Super Sugar Snap	Early	Tasty, shorter vined version of Sugar Snap

Peppers *Grow through clear or IRT plastic mulch*

	Ace or New Ace	Early	Sets fruit well in cool weather, sweet bell
	Blushing Beauty	Midseason	All America Selection, sweet bell
	Carmen	Midseason	All America Selection, sweet Italian bull's horn type
	Giant Marconi	Midseason	All America Selection, extra sweet
	Gypsy	Early-Mid	Italian sweet type
	Hungarian Yellow Wax	Midseason	Hot yellow
	Italian Sweet	Early-Mid	Italian sweet type
	Mohawk	Midseason	Green to Yellow bell row in containers
	Park's Early Thicket	Midseason	Good quality
	Redskin	Midseason	Green to Red bell for growing in containers
	Senorita	Midseason	Mild jalapeno
	Super Cayenne	Midseason	Very hot
	Super Chili	Midseason	Very hot
	Thai Hot	Early	Excellent quality

Potato

	AK 114	Late	Good quality, even size, tough skin
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Alaska Red	Early	Red, tender skin
Bakeking	Midseason	Good quality, baking
Green Mountain	Late	Good quality
Kennebec	Early	Tender skin
Norgold Russet	Late	Good quality,
Rote Erstling	Early	Red, tough skin, yellow flesh, good quality
Swedish	Late	Home garden type

Pumpkin *Grow through clear or IRT plastic mulch*

Connecticut Field	Mid-Late	Good size, heirloom
Lumina	Mid-Late	Medium size, white skin
New England Pie (Small Sugar)	Midseason	Heirloom
Racer	Mid-Late	Vigorous, short vine
Rockstar	Late	Vigorous, blocky, upright shape
Sorcerer	Late	Excellent production, compact vine
Wee-B-Little	Late	Very small, ornamental

Radish

Burpee White	Early-Mid	Holds longest without bolting
Cherriette	Early	Good shape and color
Cherry Belle	Early	Very good keeping quality
Discovery	Mid-Late	Daikon, long white root
Easter Egg	Early	Mix of red, purple, and white
Miyashige	Mid-Late	Daikon, long white root
Scarlet Globe	Early	Holds better than Cherry Belle
White Icicle	Early-Mid	Long, 5" icicle-shaped

Rutabaga	American Purple Top	Midseason	Heirloom, good storage, sweet, turnipy
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Joan	Midseason	Heirloom, purple top, sweet flavor
Laurentian	Midseason	Heirloom, purple top, sweet, mild

Spinach

Melody	Early	Plant early, excellent quality, most bolt resistant
Tyee	Early	Good variety for Fairbanks

Squash* *Grow through clear or IRT plastic mulch*

Summer	Early Prolifi	Early	Yellow, straight neck
	Eight Ball	Early	Ball shape, dark green, harvest at golf ball size
	Goldrush	Early	Striking yellow zucchini
	Greyzini	Early	Striped zucchini, nice flavor
	Magda	Early	Excellent flavor, consistent high yields
	Milano Black	Early	Very dark skinned zucchini, high yields
	One Ball	Early	Ball shape, yellow, harvest at golf ball size
	Papaya Pear	Midseason	Papaya shape, sweet flavor
	Peter Pan	Early	Green scallop
	Radiant	Early	Dark skinned zucchini, high yields
	Raven	Early	Dark skinned zucchini, high yields
	Seneca Prolific	Midseason	Yellow, straight neck, <i>botrytis</i> resistant
	Sunburst	Early	Bright yellow scallop
	Sundance	Midseason	Yellow crookneck
	Super Zuke Hybrid	Midseason	Bush-type plant, nutty flavor
Winter	Ambercup	Midseason	Bright orange buttercup
	Bon Bon	Late	All America Selection, buttercup, sweet
	Buttercup	Midseason	Dark green, excellent quality
	Gold Nugge	Early	Good quality, dependable, bush type, small size
	Golden Hubbard	Late	Excellent quality

Pink Banana	Late	Large, elongate
Spaghetti Squash	Midseason	Yellow, spaghetti-like flesh
Sunshine	Late	Bright orange color, sweet, earthy flavor
Sweet Mama	Early	Green buttercup, good quality
Tivoli	Midseason	Bush spaghetti squash, dependable

Sweet Corn *Grow through clear or IRT plastic mulch*

Earlivee	Midseason	Best quality, nice ears
Yukon Chief	Early	Dependable for cool soils, open pollinated

Tomatillo *Grow through clear or IRT plastic mulch*

Toma Verde	Mid-Late	Great for salsa, 2" fruits
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Tomato *Grow through clear or IRT plastic mulch*

Early Tanana	Early	Ripens well when picked green
Prairie Fire	Early	Best large outdoor tomato for the interior
Stupice, Re	Early	Small, very early, high yielding tomato
Sub-arctic 25	Early	Small fruits

Turnip

Hakurei,	Midseason	Fruity-sweet taste, holds well
Purple Top White Globe	Late	Heavy Good for storage
Tokyo Cross	Early,	Use for small turnips, high quality