

Vegetable Trials

Top Producers 2025



What should I plant this year? To help home gardeners in Franklin County answer this question, Master Gardener volunteers manage the Vegetable Trials research garden. Each year, two or more varieties of the vegetables most popular among home gardeners are raised using good cultural practices and evaluated for plant health and yield.

Following are the best producers:

Category	Type	Variety	Days to Maturity	Trial Year	Description
Bean	bush	Dragon's Tongue	57	2024	6-8" cream-colored pods with vivid purple striping
Bean	wax, pole	Monte Gusto	58	2024	8" pods, better tasting than bush beans grown on trellis
Beet	red	Bull's Blood	52	2024	Best eaten small, have striping when sliced, greens are great too
Carrot		Purple Star	68	2024	Purple pigment increases with maturity
Cucumber		Early Fortune	55-60	2022	Prolific fruits up to 8" long
Eggplant		Annina	65	2023	Fruits are 5-6" long with white and purple stripes

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Kale		Red Winter	50	2024	Dark green, oak-shaped leaves have dark red-purple veins
Lettuce	romaine	Parris Island Cos	65	2022	Large heads up to 12" tall
Pepper	hot	Big Boss Man	80-90	2022	Mild ancho-poblano with prolific
		Hybrid		2024	large 7" x 3" dark green fruits
Pepper	banana	Goddess	63 yellow	2024	8" fruit that transitions from
			83 red		yellow to red
Pepper	sweet	First Taste	75-85	2024	4" x 2" pyramidal fruit that
					transitions from green to orange
Radish	Daikon	Tokinashi	50-60	2024	10-14" white fruits, spicy crisp
					flesh
Radish		Royal Purple	33-35	2020	Purple outside w/ white firm
					flesh; sweet mild flavor
Squash, Summer	yellow	Goldfinch	50	2022	Early steady yields on upright easy
					harvest plants
Squash, Summer	zucchini	Green Machine	45	2021	Open zucchini plant with 7-8"
					fruits; intermediate resistance to
					diseases
Squash, Winter	butternut	Pilgrim Hybrid	80-90	2024	Flavorful 3 lb. fruits with thick
					meaty necks
Squash, Winter	delicata	Honey Boat	100	2024	6x8" green striped, tan fruits weigh 1.5
					lbs. and are sweet for squash
Sweet Potato		Beauregard	97	2021	Plump, long tubers; sweet, rich,
				2022	orange flesh
				2023	
Swiss Chard		Heart of Gold	30-60	2024	Vigorous producer
Tomato	beefsteak	Orange Wellington	75	2024	Sweet orange 1 lb. beefsteak, good
					for slicing, good producer
Tomato	beefsteak	Medium Rare Hybrid	75	2023	Pink 16-18 oz. fruits; high
				2024	yielding; very flavorful
Tomato	slicing	Nyagous	80	2024	Brown-red fruits grow to baseball
					size, very productive, flavorful
Tomato	cherry	Hartman Yellow	75	2021	Large plants yield large yellow
		Gooseberry		2022	fruit; mildly sweet flavor

More detailed results of the annual Vegetable Trials are available at go.osu.edu/franklinveggietrials