

CHOOSING CROPS BASED ON THE SEASON

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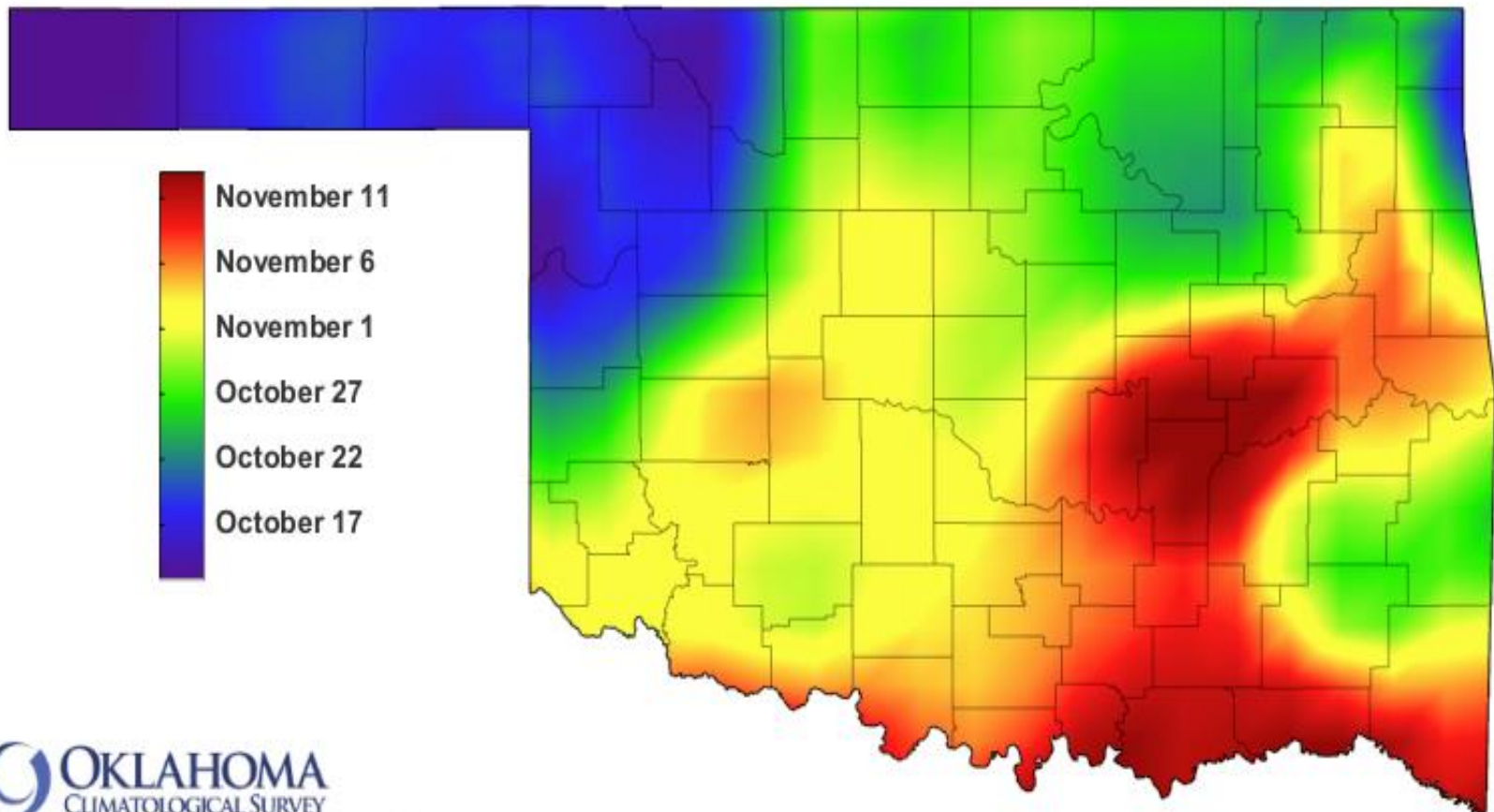
Two Types of Crops

- ▣ Vegetables can be divided into two categories based on temperature requirements:
 - Cool-season
 - Warm-season
- ▣ The time at which vegetables are planted outdoors depends on the cold hardiness of a particular species or cultivar.

Determining when to plant

- ▣ Knowing the number of days required to reach maturity, a gardener could determine the appropriate planting time for seeds and transplants by using the average dates of the first and last freezes in their area.
- ▣ First freeze of the year is usually around the end of October.
- ▣ Last freeze of the year is usually around the first of April.

Average Date of First Freeze



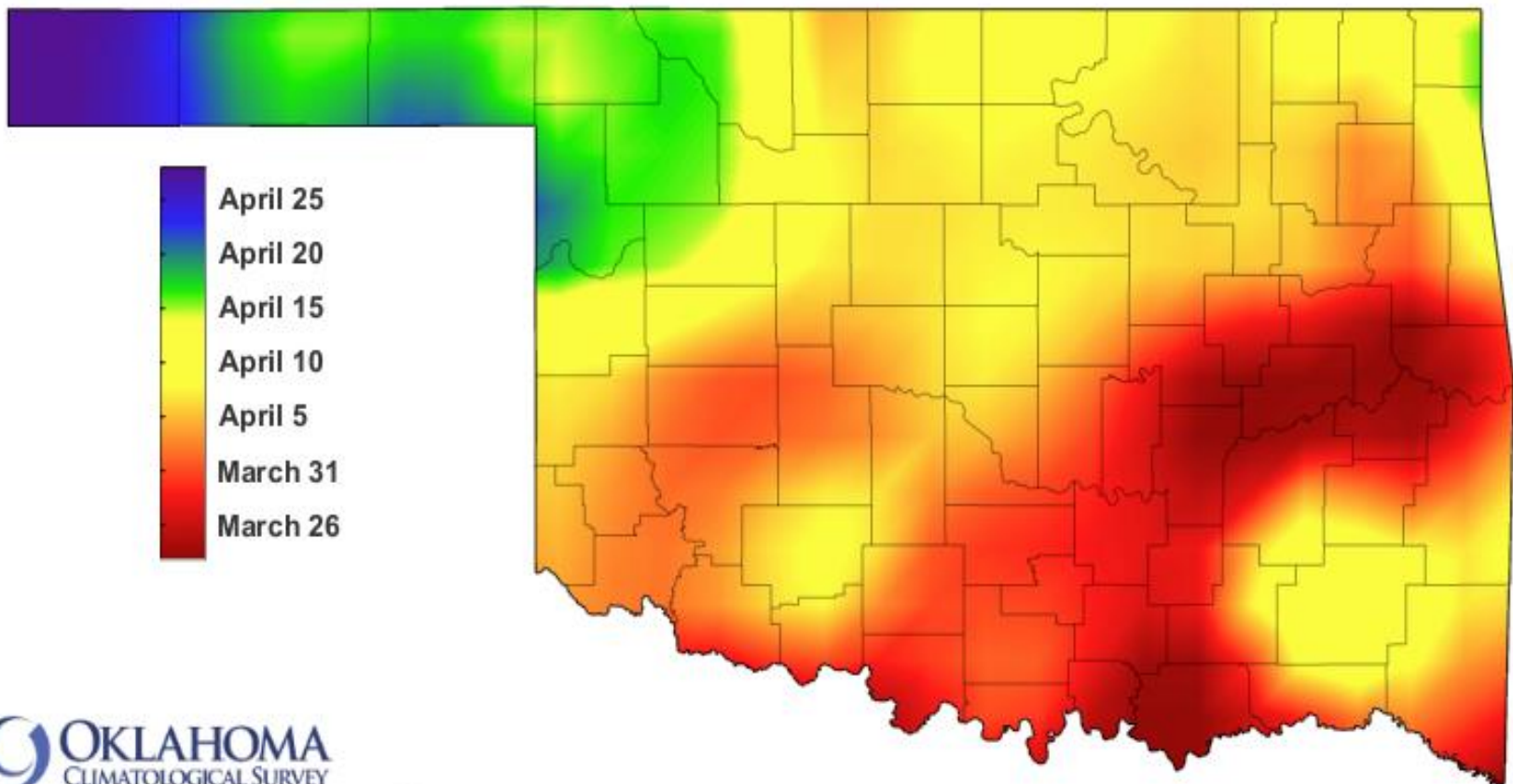
 **OKLAHOMA**
CLIMATOLOGICAL SURVEY

Average Date of First Freeze

1981-2010

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Average Date of Last Freeze



 **OKLAHOMA**
CLIMATOLOGICAL SURVEY

Average Date of Last Freeze

1981-2010

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Cool Season Crops

- Cool-season vegetables originated in temperate climates and have their favorable growth period during the cool parts of the year.
- Cool-season crops grow poorly in the summer heat.
- Cool-season crops thrive best under cool conditions. Average daily temperatures of 70 degrees Fahrenheit or less.

Planting Cool Season Vegetables

- ▣ Most cool season vegetables are planted in February or March.
 - Specific climate and weather may influence planting dates.
 - The soil temperature at the depth where the seeds are planted should be at least 40 degrees Fahrenheit.

Crop	Time to Plant	Method of Planting	Days to Harvest	Frost Tolerance
Beet	March	Seed	50-70	Semi-Hardy
Broccoli	March	Plants	80-90	Hardy
Cabbage	Feb. 15 to March 10	Plants	60-90	Hardy
Carrot	Feb. 15 to March 10	Seed	70-90	Semi-Hardy
Cauliflower	Feb. 15 to March 10	Plants	70-90	Semi-Hardy
Lettuce, Leaf	Feb. 15 to March 10	Seed	40-70	Semi-Hardy
Onion	Feb. 15 to March 10	Plants	60-120	Hardy
Peas, Green	Feb. 15 to March 10	Seed	60-90	Hardy
Potato, Irish	Feb. 15 to March 10	Tuber pieces	90-120	Semi-Hardy
Radish	March 1 to April 15	Seed	25-40	Hardy
Spinach	Feb. 15 to March 10	Seed	50-70	Hardy
Turnip	Feb. 15 to March 10	Seed	50-60	Hardy
For cool season vegetables, the soil temperature at the depth where the seeds are planted should be at least 40 degrees Fahrenheit.				

Warm Season Crops

- ▣ Warm-season crops primarily came from subtropical and tropical regions and require warm weather for seed germination and plant growth.
- ▣ Warm-season crops grow better during warm temperatures. Average daily temperatures ranging between 70 to 90 degrees Fahrenheit.
- ▣ They are injured or killed by freezing temperatures and should not be planted outdoors until the danger of freezing temperatures is past.

Planting Warm Season Vegetables

- ▣ Warm season vegetables are planted in April through the middle of June.
 - Warm season vegetables frost tolerance range from tender to very tender.
 - The soil temperature at the depth where the seeds are planted should be at least 50 degrees Fahrenheit.

Crop	Time to Plant	Method of Planting	Days to Harvest	Frost Tolerance
Beans, Lima	April 15-30	Seed	90-120	Tender
Beans, Green	April 10-30	Seed	50-60	Tender
Beans, Pole	April 10-30	Seed	60-90	Tender
Cantaloupe	May 1-20	Seed or Plant	80-100	Very Tender
Cucumber	April 10-30 or later	Plant	50-70	Very Tender
Okra	April 10-30 or later	Seed	60-70	Tender
Pepper	April 10-30 or later	Plants	90-110	Tender
Pumpkin	April 10-30 or later	Seed	90-120	Tender
Squash, Summer	April 10-30 or later	Seed or Plant	40-60	Very Tender
Sweet Corn	March 25-April 30	Seed	80-100	Tender
Sweet Potato	May 1-June 10	Plants	100-120	Very Tender
Tomato	April 10-30	Plants	70-90	Tender
Watermelon	May 1-20	Seed	90-120	Very Tender

For warm season vegetables, the soil temperature at the depth where the seeds are planted should be at least 50 degrees Fahrenheit.

Fall Gardening

- ▣ The time of planting is dependent upon the length of time required to produce the crop.
- ▣ Warm-season crops planted in the summer to mature in the fall should be planted early enough so they can be harvested before the killing freeze in the fall.
- ▣ Though cool-season crops continue to grow well past the earliest freeze in the fall, they should be started early enough to mature before hard freezes are expected.

Fall Gardening

- ▣ Seeds left over from planting the spring garden may be used in planting the fall garden if the seed is stored in a cool, dry location or in a refrigerator.
- ▣ Seeds that are stored in cool dry location properly should remain viable for many years.

Vegetables for the Fall Garden

Crop	Time to Plant	Method of Planting	Days to Harvest
Beans, Pole	July 15-30	Seed	60-70
Corn, Sweet	July 15	Seed	80-100
Cucumber	Aug 10-20	Seed or Plant	60-70
Pepper	July 15	Plants	90-110
Pumpkin	July 15-30	Seed or Plants	100-120
Summer Squash	July 15-Sept. 1	Seed or Plants	40-50
Tomatoes	July 1-15	Plants	70-90

These Vegetables Frost Tolerance is Tender – (harvest before frost)

Vegetables for Fall Garden

Crop	Time to Plant	Method of Planting	Days to Harvest
Beet	Aug. 1-15	Seed	60-70
Broccoli	July 15-Aug. 15	Plants	70-80
Carrots	July 15-Aug. 15	Seed	70-80
Cauliflower	Aug 1-25	Plants	70-80
Leaf Lettuce	Aug. 1-15	Seed or Plants	60-70
Onions	Sept. 1	Seed or Plants	Late spring the following year
Peas, green	Aug. 15-Sept. 1	Seed	60-90
Radish	Aug. 15-Oct. 10	Seed	20-40
Spinach	Sept. 5-25	Seed	50-60
Turnip	Aug. 1-Sept. 15	Seed	50-60

These Vegetables Frost Tolerance is Semi-hardy -(may continue to grow and be harvested after several frosts).