

# Extending Your Season

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# Ways to extend your growing season

- Plant early maturing varieties
- Use row covers
- Use plastic mulch and drip irrigation
- Consider fall plantings
- Plant something different
- Plant at different times throughout season

# Vegetable Seasons in Alabama



Green Bell Pepper



Tomatoes



Greens (Kale)



Pumpkin



Cucumber



Cantaloupe



Watermelon



Snap Beans



Cabbage



Red Bell Pepper



Oriental Snap Beans



Sweetpotatoes



Sweet Corn



Summer Squash (Zucchini)



Eggplant



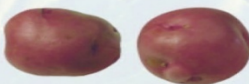
Mustard Greens



Okra



Irish Potatoes



Irish Potatoes

**Peak Season**  
**Season Beginning and End**

+ Harvested mid-July through November; sold year-round from storage

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
BELL PEPPERS												
CABBAGE												
CANTALOUPE & OTHER SMALL MELONS												
CUCUMBERS (SLICERS, PICKLES)												
EGGPLANT												
GREENS (KALE, MUSTARD, COLLARDS, TURNIP GREENS)												
IRISH POTATOES												
LIMA BEANS												
OKRA												
PUMPKINS & WINTER SQUASH												
SNAP BEANS												
SOUTHERN PEAS												
SUMMER SQUASH (YELLOW SQUASH, ZUCCHINI)												
SWEET CORN												
SWEET POTATOES +												
TOMATOES												
WATERMELONS												

ALABAMA  
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# Early Varieties

**First Lady II Tomato**



**Ice Queen 77 days**





## **Row Covers**

Protects plants from cold temperatures



## **Plastic Mulch with Drip Irrigation**

Can give up to two weeks earlier production in Spring

# Fall Planting

- Many spring vegetables can also be planted in August for late harvests
- Greens (turnip, collard, mustard etc.) are planted in late summer
- Cucumbers, radish and other short season vegetables can be grown later

# Plant something different

- Herbs and cut flowers can be sold throughout the season
- Diverse ethnic groups have trouble finding familiar foods
- Know your customers!
  - “You can’t do business out of an empty wagon.”





## **EGGPLANT**

Many new varieties that appeal to diverse customers



## **Basil**

Many different varieties and ways to sell

Somewhat tricky to grow



**Rosemary**





## **Bib Lettuce**

Demand for fresh salad greens is high



## **Kohlrabi?**

Limited Market, but unique, hard to find  
WE CAN GROW!



## **Asparagus**

Excellent potential for early  
season market



## **High Tunnel Production**

Excellent way to have something to sell when nobody else does

Initial costs are high

Research ongoing at Auburn



## **Ornamental Gourds**

<http://www.alabamagourdsociety.org/>



# Fruit

**Muscadines**



**Blueberries**



# More fruit

**Strawberries**



**Brambles**





# Fall Festival-Holiday Market

**Ornamental Corn**



**Pumpkins**





