

# URBAN FARMER

LOVE THE EARTH

## Growing and Harvesting in Georgia

Georgia's USDA Hardiness Zones range from 6 to 9, with Zone 6 encompassing the northwestern corner of the state. The zones increase in a diagonal format from northwestern to southeastern, with central Georgia landing in a Zone 8 and southwestern and southern Georgia reaching a Zone 9. Depending on the zone, Georgia's first frost dates vary from late September to mid-November, and the state's last frost dates vary from mid-March to late May in some areas. On average, Georgia experiences 205 days between the first and last frost dates.



[Georgia Planting Calendar on ufseeds.com](http://ufseeds.com)

### What to plant and when:

Since Georgia has four different USDA Hardiness Zones, the planting schedule for certain vegetables throughout the state varies greatly.

#### Zone 6:

- **March:** Begin beets, broccoli, cauliflower, kale, lettuce, onions, peas, spinach and other cool-weather crops inside at this time.
- **April:** Transplant beets, broccoli, cauliflower, kale, peas and spinach outdoors. Begin carrots, tomatoes and peppers inside.
- **May:** Transplant carrots and onions outdoors. Begin squash, corn, cucumber, beans, Brussels sprouts and cabbage indoors.
- **June:** Transplant peppers and tomatoes outdoors
- **July:** Transplant beans, cabbage, Brussels sprouts, corn, cucumbers and squash outdoors. Begin spinach, carrots beets and broccoli indoors to start the fall

harvest crops.

- **August:** Begin kale, lettuce and peas indoors. Transplant spinach outdoors.
- **September:** Transplant kale, lettuce, peas, carrots, broccoli and beets outdoors.

#### Zone 7:

- **February:** Begin broccoli, cauliflower and peas indoors.
- **March:** Begin beets, cabbage, carrots, kale, lettuce, onions, peppers, spinach and tomato indoors. Near the end of March, transplant broccoli, carrots, peas and cauliflower outdoors.
- **April:** Transplant kale, lettuce and spinach outdoors. Begin beans and Brussels sprouts indoor.
- **May:** Transplant onions, peppers and tomatoes outdoors. Begin corn, cucumbers and squash indoors.
- **June:** Transplant beans, Brussels sprouts, corn, cucumbers and squash outdoors.
- **July:** Begin cabbage indoors.



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- **August:** Begin beets, broccoli, carrots, cauliflower, kale, lettuce, peas and spinach indoors. Near the end of the month, transplant cabbage outdoors.
- **September:** Transplant beets, broccoli, carrots, cauliflower, kale, lettuce, peas and spinach outdoors for the fall harvest.

### Zone 8:

- **February:** Begin beets, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, kale, lettuce, onions, peas, peppers, spinach and tomatoes indoors.
- **March:** Transplant beets, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, kale, lettuce, peas and spinach outdoors. Begin beans indoors.
- **April:** Transplant onions, peppers and tomatoes outdoors. Begin Brussels sprouts, squash, corn and cucumbers indoors.
- **May:** Transplant Brussels sprouts, corn and cucumbers outdoors.
- **June:** Transplant beans and squash outdoors.
- **August:** Begin beets, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, kale and lettuce indoors.
- **September:** Transplant beets, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, kale and lettuce outdoors. Begin peas and spinach indoors.
- **October:** Transplant peas and spinach outdoors

### Zone 9:

- **January:** Begin broccoli, lettuce, onions, peas, peppers, spinach and tomatoes indoors.
- **February:** Begin beets, beans, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, corn and



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- cucumbers indoors. Transplant beets, broccoli, cabbage, lettuce, peas and spinach outdoors.
- **March:** Transplant cauliflower, tomatoes, peppers, onions, cucumber, corn, carrots and beans outdoors. Begin Brussels sprouts and squash indoors.
- **April:** Transplant Brussels sprouts and squash outdoors.
- **July:** Begin peppers and tomatoes inside for a second season.
- **August:** Begin broccoli, corn and cucumbers.
- **September:** Begin beans, beets, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, lettuce and spinach indoors. Transplant peppers, tomatoes and broccoli outside.
- **October:** Transplant beets, beans, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, corn, cucumbers, lettuce and spinach outside. Begin peas and kale.
- **November:** Transplant peas and kale outside.



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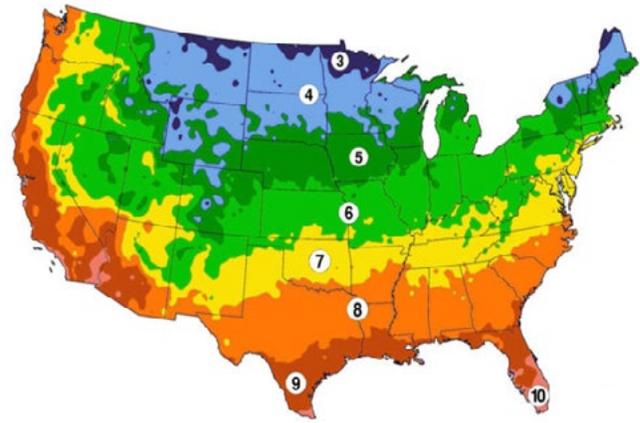
## LOVE THE EARTH

### Georgia's soil and how it affects agriculture:

The state of Georgia is divided into eight soil provinces that consist of three main types of soil. Georgia is typically known for its red-tinted clay soil, but soil can range from loamy and nutrient-rich types in the coastal regions to thick, heavy, clayey soils in the inland areas. Sandy soils are also present in the inland areas. More than 2 million acres of Tifton soil is present in Georgia, making it the state soil. Tifton soil is mostly present in the southern, coastal plain areas, such as Savannah. The Tifton soil is loamy, and it makes for good farming soil. Most frequently, cotton, peanuts and soybeans are grown in this soil. Georgia clay soil is thick and heavy, and it comes in colors of black, brown and gray. These clay soils are most frequently found in the hilly regions of northern Georgia. Although the clayey soils in northern Georgia may be nutrient-rich, the thickness of the soil may make it difficult for plants to establish and grow their roots. Another soil type in Georgia is sandy soil, which doesn't hold nutrients well, but it drains easily. Sandy soil is easily amended with compost to improve its quality. It is found in various locations throughout the state. Some plants grow well in sandy soil with any amendments added, and these include day lilies, blueberries, cacti, succulents and some varieties of oak trees.

### Average rainfall in Georgia:

Much of Georgia's precipitation measures similarly across all areas of the state. In northern Georgia, yearly precipitation



[USDA Hardiness Gardening Zone Finder on ufseeds.com](http://ufseeds.com)

measurements vary from 46.3 inches per year in Athens to 69 inches per year in Clayton. In central Georgia, yearly precipitation measurements vary from 43.6 inches per year in Augusta to 52.3 inches per year in La Grange. In southern and coastal Georgia, yearly precipitation measurements vary from 46.8 inches per year in Waycross to 54.2 inches per year in Valdosta.

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