

# URBAN FARMER

LOVE THE EARTH

## Growing and Harvesting in Ohio

Ohio only has two USDA Hardiness Zones – Zone 5 and Zone 6. Most of the state sits in Zone 6, but there are small groupings of Zone 5 mixed in. Zone 5 is mostly in the center of the state, as well as the northwestern and northeastern corners and in a small patch along the western border. There are several other small patches of Zone 5 in the state, but much of it resides in Zone 6. First and last frost dates vary depending on if you reside in Zone 5 or Zone 6. First frost dates begin as early as the beginning of October in Youngstown and as late as the end of October in Lorain. Last frost dates can be as early as mid-April in Lorain and as late as mid-May in Youngstown.



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

### What to plant and when:

Since Ohio only has two USDA Hardiness Zones, there isn't much difference on when to plant certain vegetables per zone, however it is important to abide by the schedule so vegetables don't freeze or get harmed by a late frost. Gardening changes drastically per state, so be sure to follow the planting schedules to best grow the vegetables in your area.

#### Zone 5:

- **March:** Begin broccoli inside.
- **April:** Begin beets, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, kale, lettuce, onions, peas, peppers, spinach and tomatoes inside. Plant broccoli outside.
- **May:** Begin beets, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, kale, lettuce, onions, peas, peppers, spinach

and tomatoes inside. Plant broccoli outside.

- **June:** Plant Brussels sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower, onions, peppers and tomatoes outside.
- **July:** Plant corn, cucumbers and squash outside. Begin beets, broccoli, kale, lettuce, peas and spinach inside.
- **August:** Plant beets, broccoli, kale, lettuce, peas and spinach outside. Begin carrots inside.
- **September:** Plant carrots outside.

#### Zone 6:

- **March:** Begin beets, broccoli, cauliflower, kale, lettuce, onions, peas, peppers, spinach and tomatoes inside.
- **April:** Plant beets, broccoli, cauliflower, kale, lettuce, peas and spinach outside. Begin carrots outside.
- **May:** Begin beans, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, corn, cucumbers and squash inside. Plant carrots, onions, peppers and tomatoes outside.



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- **June:** Plant squash, beans, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, corn and cucumbers outside.
- **July:** Begin beets, broccoli and spinach inside.
- **August:** Plant beets, broccoli and spinach outside. Begin carrots, kale, lettuce and peas inside.
- **September:** Plant carrots, kale, lettuce and peas outside.

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

Soil changes depending on where in Ohio you are located. In the northwestern region of the state, soil has a coarse texture as it was formed by glacial pull and contains a lot of glacial sediments. This makes the soil has plenty of organic matter, but it is also full of clay. Much of the northwestern region is developed for urban living since it is not sustainable for growth. The western border of Ohio has soil with a fine texture that drains well, and there is very little rock in the soil, making it a better option for planting. In the east and central-east region, there is lots of farming. The soil here as a reddish color like clay but has little clay consistency. The area is farmed heavily, and most farmers will use fertilizers to amend the soil even more to make it more sustainable for growth. The northeastern region possesses a variety of soil which ranges from fine to course. Most of the well-drained soil is in the southern portion of this area. However, the region has even soil, making it an ideal place to grow sod.

Ohio has four dominant soil orders within the state, each with different soil properties.



[Vegetable seeds and plants available at ufseeds.com](http://ufseeds.com)

**Alfisols:** The majority of Ohio's soil is made up of Alfisols. Alfisols are fertile soils that are excellent for crop growth.

**Ultisols:** There is a small stripe of Ultisols soil in the southwestern border stretching up near the center of the state in Ohio. Ultisols are full of hard clay, and gardeners should amend the soil with lime and fertilizer to make it more usable for agriculture.

**Mollisols:** There are small patches of Mollisols throughout Ohio, concentrated mostly on the western side, at times stretching to the center of the state. These soils are fertile and excellent for crop growth. Mollisols are darker in color than most soils.

**Inceptisols:** These soils are only prevalent in the northwestern corner of the state. Inceptisols are the most common soil across the earth, and they have decent drainage. They can grow crops decently well.



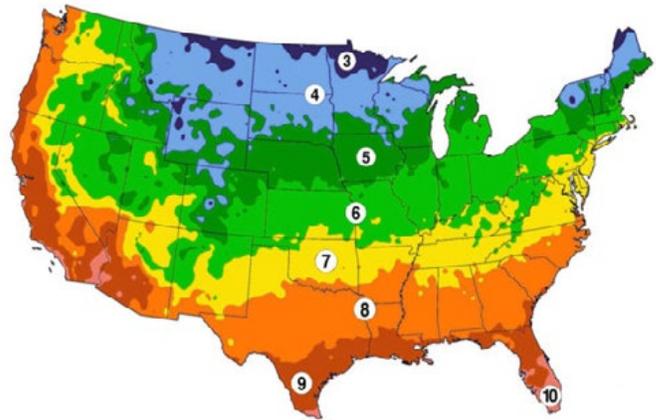
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## Average rainfall in Ohio:

Average annual precipitation in Ohio comes from both rainfall and snowfall, and the amounts vary depending on where in the state you are located. In northern Ohio, average annual precipitation varies from 33.2 inches a year in Sandusky to 44.2 inches a year in Mansfield. In southern Ohio, average annual precipitation ranges from 39.3 inches a year in Columbus to 43 inches a year in McConnelsville Lock.

Check out our wide selection of vegetable seeds and plants at [ufseeds.com](http://ufseeds.com)!



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



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