

URBAN FARMER

LOVE THE EARTH

What to grow in a greenhouse

Whether you're wanting to increase your winter profit by offering summer vegetables grown in a greenhouse or whether you're wanting the easiest plants to grow in a greenhouse space for your own enjoyment, there are plenty of good options when it comes to what's best to grow in a greenhouse environment.

Vegetables:

Picking the right vegetables to grow in your greenhouse depend on which type of greenhouse you have on the property. For cool-season crops like lettuce, peas, broccoli or carrots, these are best situated for growth in an unheated greenhouse or in cold frames since they can survive in cooler temperatures. For warmer-weather crops like tomatoes, squashes, cucumbers or peppers do best in a heated greenhouse where temperatures range from 55 to 85 degrees Fahrenheit.

Flowers:

Vegetables aren't the only option for things to grow in your greenhouse. You can opt for ornamental plants to grow in there, as well. Oftentimes, this may be because you want a splash of color in the dark days of winter, or it may be because you are hoping to hybridize by isolating pollen or to multiply your favorite outdoor plants from cuttings. The best ornamentals to grow or hybridize in a greenhouse include geraniums, ferns, poinsettias, chrysanthemums, pansies, coleus and many more.

Another option for plants to grow in a greenhouse include tropical plants and cacti,



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especially if you live in a cooler area where these plants can't survive outside even in the warmer months. Orchids, Venus flytraps and other difficult plants to grow can thrive in a greenhouse setting where you have complete control over the environment and water.

Fun options:

For someone who may reside in a more northern state, a greenhouse not only offers the gardener the opportunity to grow items year-round, but it also offers them the opportunity to grow plants they can't grow outside even in the summer, such as citrus plants. The citrus plants will thrive in the greenhouse due to its sheltered environment. Fresh ginger also is an excellent option to grow in a greenhouse, because it is also a tropical plant that is bursting with vitamins and minerals. Lemon verbena can grow in a variety of climates outdoors and isn't as picky as other plants, but when grown outdoors it requires excessive amounts of pruning. When grown in a greenhouse, the



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gardener can just snip off small branches and leaves as needed. A fourth interesting option to test out in your greenhouse would be scented geranium. Not only will these flowers light up the greenhouse with their beautiful color and smells, they can be trimmed for bouquets using their foliage and blossoms and can even be used in several DIY projects inside, such as creating a body scrub.

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