

Easy to grow in a container!

Love the
Food
You Eat!

Growing Lettuce

With the variety of colors, shapes and flavors available, your salads may never be the same. Lettuce is adaptable to many growing conditions, but likes it cool-around 60 degrees. Grow in spring and fall, and slow bolting by shading summer crops. Bolting occurs when the plant develops seeds prematurely.



When & How to Plant: Direct seed or transplant in early spring, as soon as you can work the soil. To get an early start, prepare beds the previous fall by working in manure or compost and raking smooth to leave a fine seedbed. Seeds need light to germinate, so do not plant too deep.

Make succession plantings every week or two. Grow several varieties with different maturity dates for a continuous supply.

Transplants- Space crisphead transplants 12" apart in rows 18" apart. Space other varieties 6" to 10" apart in rows 12" to 18" apart.

Preferred Sunlight: Full Sun/Part Shade. Grows best in full sun, but part shade is beneficial when it is hot.

Preferred Soil Conditions: Tolerant of a wide range of soils, but prefers well-drained, cool, loose soil with plentiful moisture.

Maintenance and Care: Lettuce has a shallow root system. Keep soil moist to keep plants growing continuously. Mulch to retain moisture and suppress weeds (unless slugs are a problem). Moisture stress and high temperatures, particularly at night, encourage bolting. As the season progresses, plant more bolt-resistant varieties. Locate plants where they will be partially shaded by taller nearby plants, lattice-work or other screen.

Source:

Cornell University, Home Gardening, Vegetable Growing Guides. For a complete Growing Guide and additional information visit.

www.gardening.cornell.edu



**DICKMAN
FARMS**

GREENHOUSES & GARDEN CENTER

Where beauty comes naturally.

13 Archie St., Auburn NY 13021

Located off Rte 38A in Auburn (315) 253-3030 • dickmanfarms.com

Easy to grow in a container!

Love the
Food
You Eat!

Growing Lettuce

Some varieties recommended for New York include:

Looseleaf- (var. crispa) Easy to grow. Matures quickly. You can start harvesting leaves as soon as 4 weeks after planting. Great for early-season plantings. Wide variety of leaf shapes and colors. 45-60 days to maturity.

Butterhead- (bib, loosehead, Boston) Exceptionally good flavor and quality. Forms loose heads with oily leaves. 55 to 75 days to maturity.

Romaine- (Cos, var. longifolia)- Upright, elongated heads. (some grow nearly 2' tall). More tolerant of warm weather and less likely to bolt than other lettuce types. Red varieties as well as traditional light green. Most take about 70 days to mature.

French (summer crisp)- Midway between butterhead and crisphead. You can harvest early like leaf lettuce or wait until heads form. 50 to 75 days.

Crisphead- (iceberf, var. capitata) The familiar spherical heads found in grocery stores. Most difficult varieties to grow. Requires long cool season. Best chance of success is by setting out transplants in early spring. Will bolt quickly in response to stress. 75 or more days.

Choose slow-bolting varieties for later plantings that may encounter hot-weather.

Looseleaf:

Black Seeded Simpson
Green Ice
Ibis
Lolla Rossa
New Red Fire
Oak Leaf
Prizehead
Red Sails
Ruby
Salad Bowl
Slobolt

Romaine:

Cosmo Savoy
Green Towers
Little Gem
Parris Island
Valmaine

Butterhead:

Buttercrunch
Esmerelda
Four Seasons
Sangria
Winter Density

French:

Sierra

Crisphead (Iceberg)

Great Lakes (Fall)
Ithaca
Summertime
Tom Thumb



**DICKMAN
FARMS**

GREENHOUSES & GARDEN CENTER

Where beauty comes naturally.

13 Archie St., Auburn NY 13021

Located off Rte 38A in Auburn (315) 253-3030 • dickmanfarms.com