

This week in the vegetable garden

Linda Gilkeson

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May 7, 2020: This year's zucchini,
lettuce; overwintered chard, broccoli,
onions, cauliflower

What to Plant Right Now

Spring planting depends on **soil temperature & weather**

Feb./March	Peas , onion sets, strawberries
April/May	Salad greens, carrots, beets, potatoes, radishes, scallions, Swiss chard, Chinese cabbage & other leafy greens, Cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower Plant out leeks, onion seedlings, more peas
Mid-May/ Early June	Sweet corn, beans, more peas , more cauliflower Transplant: Peppers, tomatoes, cucumbers, squash, melons, sweet basil



Birds!



Protect Carrots from Carrot Rust Fly

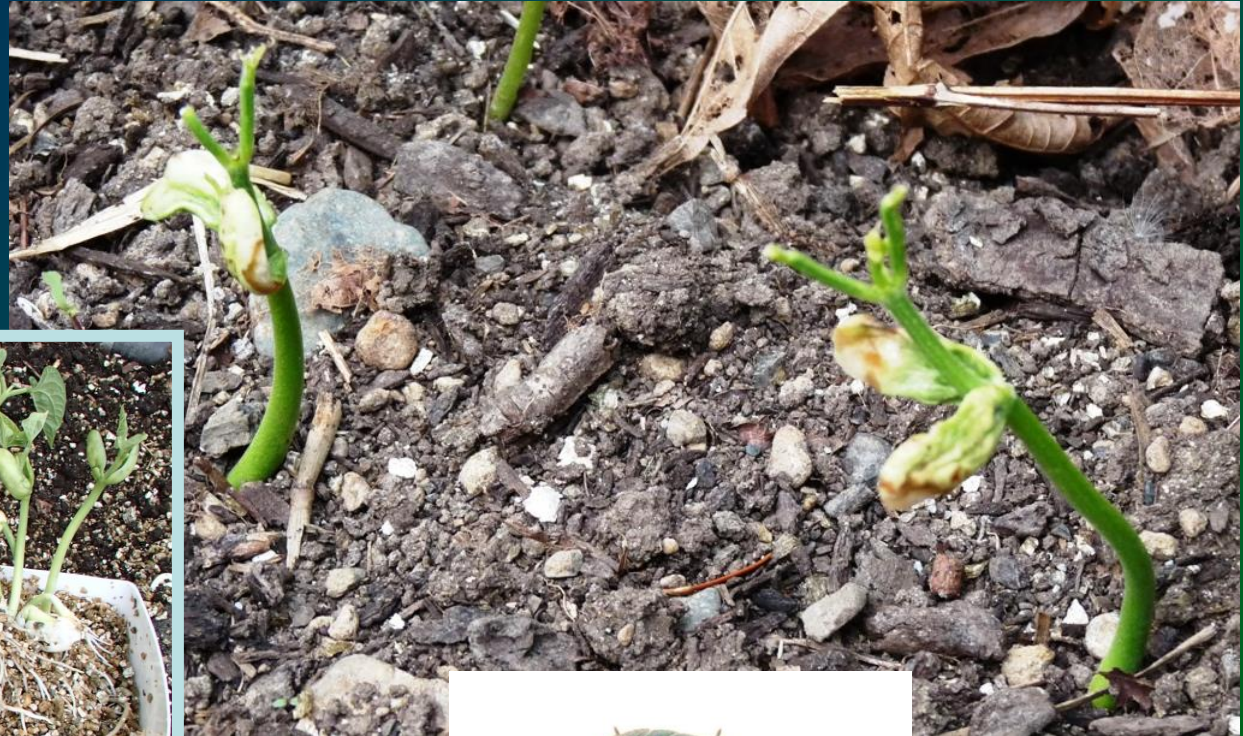
Cover with insect netting or floating row cover before seedlings emerge



The soil is warm enough for beans



....but if pillbugs are a problem you may still want to start them indoors first





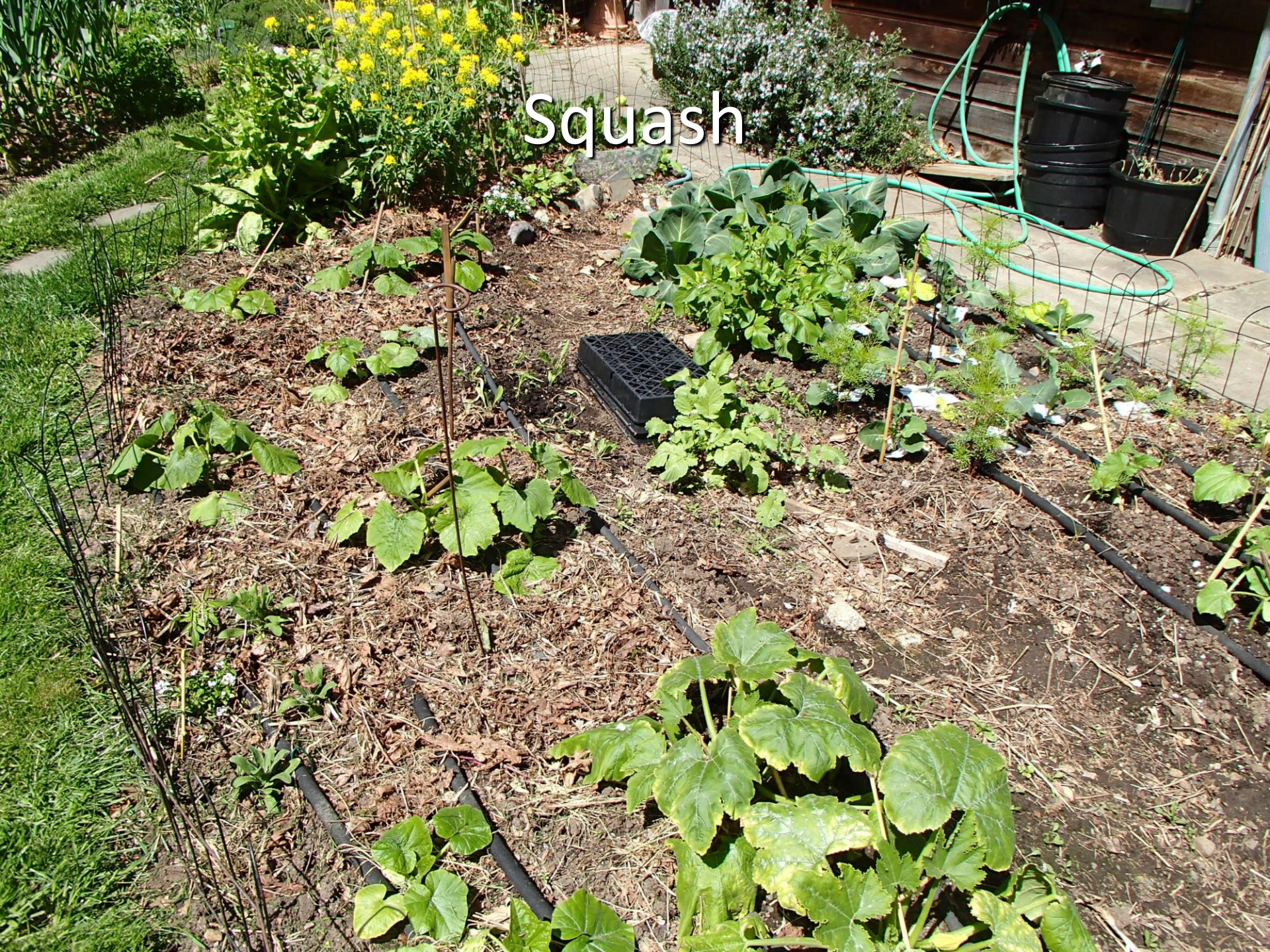
First planting of corn started indoors:
Needs 18-21°C for germination



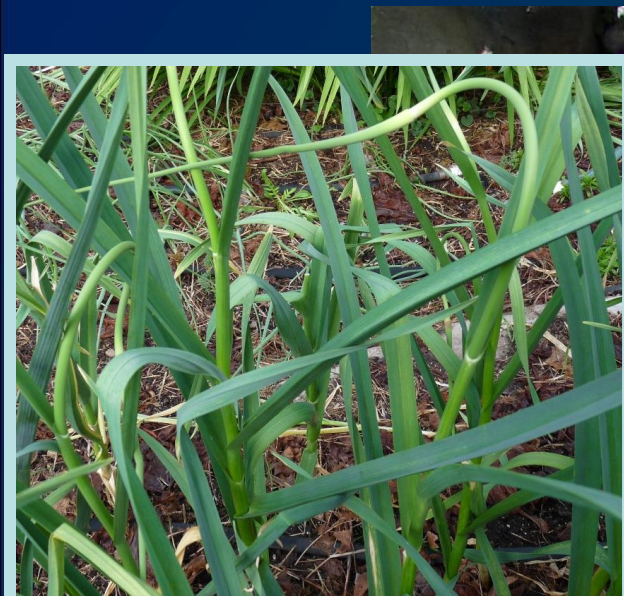
Tomatoes



Squash



Garlic scapes are coming soon...



When to plant winter crops

Planting dates are critical

Plants need enough growing time to reach full size before winter

Late May-early June	Brussels sprouts, winter cabbage, parsnips
Mid- to Late June	Purple sprouting broccoli, winter cauliflower and cabbage, parsnips
Early July	Carrots, beets, rutabagas, endive & radicchio, Swiss chard/leaf beet, kohlrabi
Late July to early August	Arugula, hardy lettuce, mizuna, collards, kale, winter radish, leaf mustards, mustard spinach, Chinese greens, spinach, winter onions & scallions, broccoli raab
Late August to mid-September	Corn salad, cilantro, arugula, winter lettuce

End of May

Start seeds of:

- Brussels sprouts (this timing avoids aphid damage in sprouts)
- Long season winter cabbage: e.g., 'January King', 'Danish Ballhead', 'Langedijker Red' (120-180 days)

Make sure you have seeds
for later plantings of winter
harvest crops



Winter harvest planting dates

From my home page lindagilkeson.ca

- Print out a winter planting chart & keep in on the fridge
- Join Linda's List for food gardening reminders by email



WHEN TO PLANT FOR WINTER HARVESTS

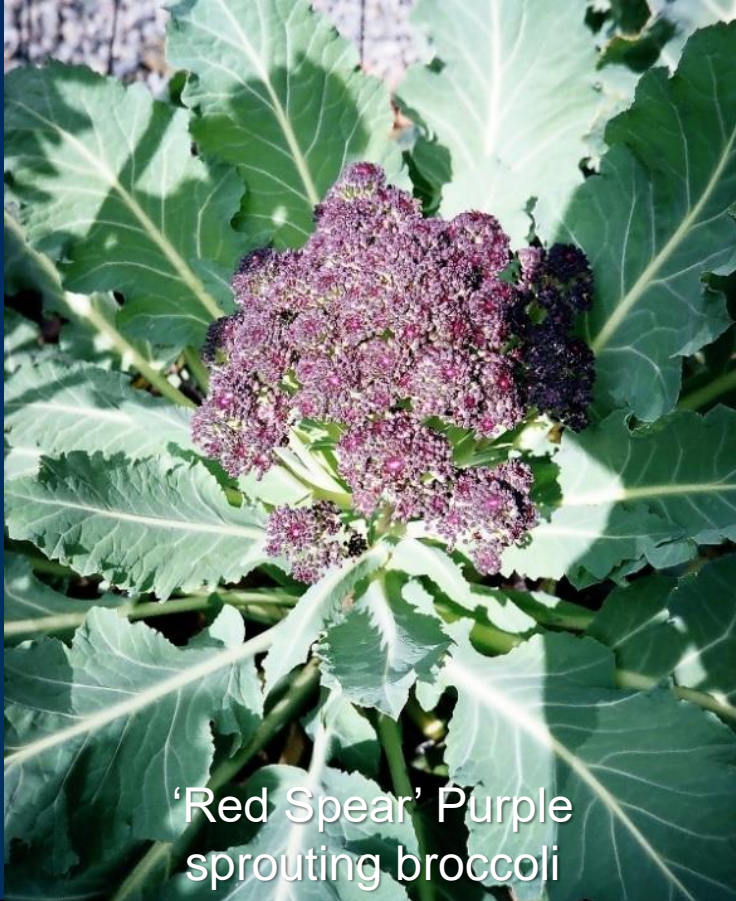
Dates	What to plant:
Feb. -Mar.	Leeks, celeriac (indoors)
April-May	Swiss chard, parsley, parsnips
Early June	Brussels sprouts, winter cabbage
Mid- to Late June	Purple sprouting broccoli, winter cauliflower, winter cabbage
Early July	Carrots, beets, rutabagas, endive & radicchio, Swiss chard & leaf beet, kohlrabi
Late July-early Aug.	Arugula, fall & winter lettuce, mizuna, collards, kale, daikon/winter radish, leaf mustards, mustard spinach, Chinese greens, spinach, winter onions & scallions, broccoli raab
Late Aug.-mid-Sept.	Corn salad, cilantro, arugula, winter lettuce
October	Garlic, broad beans

Sign up for Linda's List of gardening tips:
www.lindagilkeson.ca

Choose hardy varieties for over-wintering

Winter cauliflower & broccoli differ from summer varieties

Some varieties of lettuce, leeks, endives, leafy greens are very frost-hardy, but some are not



'Red Spear' Purple
sprouting broccoli



'Galleon' cauliflower

Sowing in summer

Soil dries out quickly & can be too warm for germination

- Cover seeds with slightly deeper layer of soil
- Press firmly to improve contact with moist soil below
- Shade soil: burlap, newspaper, opaque white plastic sheets
- Check moisture often
- Uncover when first shoot shows

Soil can be **too warm** for lettuce, carrots, parsnips, corn salad to germinate →



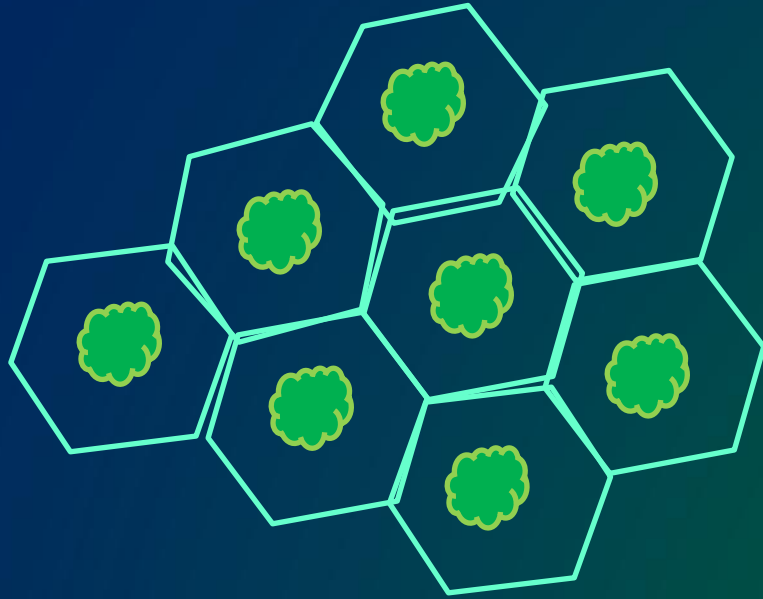
Remember to shade seedlings in hot weather: Shade cloth, lathwork



10 days ago



Denser planting makes the most use of garden space



A 2-inch chicken wire template



Thinning: 'Dense' doesn't mean overcrowded



Beets & chard
always have to
be thinned

Inter-planting

Plants occupy different root zones or mature at different times:

Example, in order of harvest:

- Spring lettuce
- Early cauliflower
- Summer broccoli (yellow circles)



A week ago



Today: Time to harvest lettuce



Other Inter-planting

- Lettuce between new strawberry plants, winter broccoli, Br. sprouts
- Radishes among carrots



Lettuce between new strawberries



Lettuce between Brussel sprouts

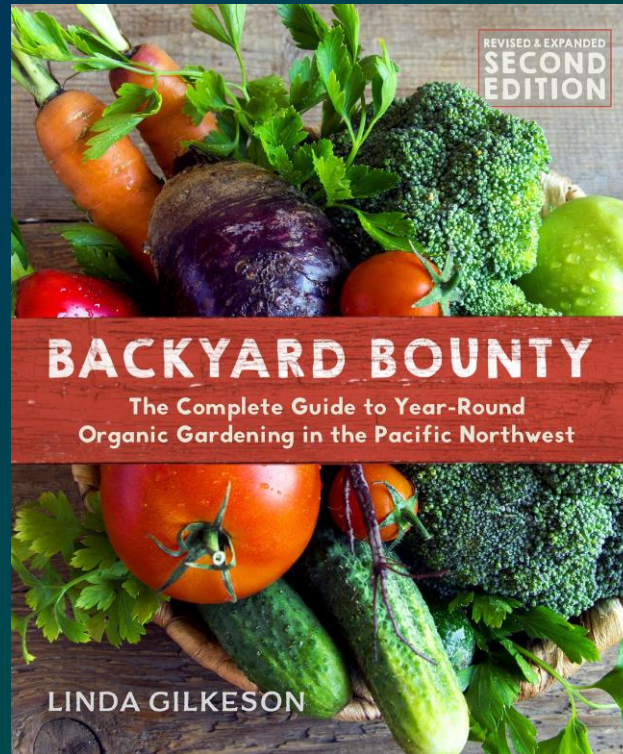
Early peas, later peas, lettuce, radishes



Winter cabbage family: Plant between cucumbers in July



Happy gardening!



To be added to Linda's List for gardening reminders: lindagilkeson.ca