

Straw Hat Farms

of Marion County, IA



Vegetable Plant and seed Catalog

2024 Growing Season

The Vegetable plants listed here are varieties that are suitable for transplanting into the garden when you take them home. We start the plants ourselves so they are ready for your garden, and ours, at the right time. Our plants are hardened off, meaning they are tough enough to go to the garden when you buy them. It is best if you purchase plants at the right time, for example purchasing Tomato plants in early April and Cabbage plants in late May generally does not work very well. (actually the planting times should be reversed).

Bulk Seeds

We also have a few bulk seeds. Our seeds are priced for a 15 foot row, which makes a nice small garden. Of course if your garden is bigger we can measure up enough seed for you. (See list of available seeds at the end of the catalog)

Onions, Irish Seed Potatoes and Sweet Potato plants,

Onions: In the past few years, we have not been satisfied with the performance of the onion plants and sets we have obtained from our supplier. The plant vitality has been subpar and the varieties available in sets is extremely limited. So, we are growing several varieties from seeds and will have thriving plants available for you. (and us) We are trying paper pots in 2024 for the first time. Let us know how they work for you.

Irish Seed Potatoes: We purchase seed potatoes from a bulk supplier and plant them in our garden beds as well as selling the seed potatoes for your garden. The larger ones can be sliced into chunks but should be healed at least overnight before planting. A good thick layer of mulch (6 in.) over them helps conserve moisture and weed management.

Sweet Potatoes: We order our sweet potato plants from a specialty grower in Tennessee. They provide good quality plants, However, Sweet potato plants have a very short shelf life. So if you are planning to grow some, and will be purchasing plants, please let us know as early as possible. We will have plenty of plants but we like to let you know personally when they arrive so that you can get them in the ground soon after. Generally they arrive around mid May. Sweet potato plants only grow after the danger of temperatures in the mid 30's are past so

waiting until mid May is highly recommended. They are a very long season plant so dig them just before frost.

We have done the research for you.

We have searched many sources including University trials and multiple seed companies, for what we think are the best varieties for our area. We plant many of the same varieties of vegetable plants in our farm plots that we sell as plants to you from our greenhouse.

The varieties we plant and our reason for choosing them are stated in this catalog.

The three most important traits we look for in a variety are taste, productivity and disease resistance.

Most of our varieties are hybrids, which various plant breeders are continually developing. So each year we search for new varieties and try some in our gardens. Of course there are some old standbys that people traditionally like, we carry some of these as well.

However, it is impossible to grow every variety.

We think you will be pleased with growing our vegetable plants!



Heirloom varieties have been growing in popularity in recent years mostly for their traditional taste. However, in general these varieties do not offer the same disease resistance of modern hybrids. Our experience tells us there are hybrids that offer great taste and yet are significantly easier to grow than heirlooms. Some of the varieties we offer are heirlooms as in some cases quality hybrids have not been developed.



Concerning GMO (Genetically Modified Organisms) varieties, to our knowledge none of the varieties of food plants we offer are GMOs. Where a GMO variety is offered we will note it as we learn of them.

Please note—this catalog is a work in progress. We will do our best to continue to add photos and descriptions for each entry as we work towards completion. We will use as many pictures as we can of our own products, but in some cases we use suppliers' pictures when necessary. The best way to tell what a plant is like is to come see us in person!

Pricing

All of our vegetable plants are offered in 4 packs

A single 4 pack is \$2.75

or purchase a flat of 12 - 4 packs, mixed with flower 4 packs, for \$30.25

If you have a small garden we will sell less than 4 plants for 75 cents each

Other Plants:

Seed potatoes: 80 cents per pound, \$4 for 5 lbs, \$7.50 for 10 lbs

Sweet Potato Plants \$1 per plant (call to order)

Onion Plants 12 for \$1.50

Tomato plants in Gallon pots \$10



Vegetable Plants

Broccoli

Castle Dome 50 days. Castle Dome Hybrid is a compact variety, less than 2 feet tall, and it finishes very quickly. It is also even more heat-tolerant, lasting well into the warm weather without becoming rangy or going to flower. You can use it both for extra-early crops and for extra-late . . . as well as the whole season in between! This domed variety offers uniform, mid-green, heavy, deep heads with small, tight beads. It holds well in the field if your harvest is delayed. Tolerant of both unseasonable heat and cold. And because it's tolerant of both hollow stem and brown bead, your harvests will be bigger and healthier than ever before.



Brussle Sprout

Jade Cross



Cabbage

Golden Acre: 55 Days: Open Pollinated, 5" head, will grow well in poor soil. We sold Golden Acre at our farmer's market stand last year too.



Grand Vantage: 80-85 days. Very round, blue-green 7 in. head averages 5-6 lbs. Has dense solid interiors, short cores and tight wrapper leaves. Holds well in the field.



Red Acre: 55 days from transplant, Average 7" heads,



Cantaloupe: Watch them closely when they are ripening!!

Athena (79 Days) Highest-quality, 5- to 6-lb. fruits have outstanding flavor and aroma. Firm, salmon-colored flesh holds well after harvest. Vigorous, high-yielding plants.



Cauliflower

Snow Crown: (50 Days) Large bright white heads, Snow Crown is a consistent producer. Snow Crown grew some picture perfect heads for us last year. Has really good taste too.



Cucumber

Sweet Success (62Days):(Burpless slicer) A productive hybrid with mild flavor and no trace of bitterness - not a 'burp' in a bushel. Vigorous vines produce a heavy crop of slim, medium-dark green fruits 10 to 12 inches long. Flesh is pure white, crisp and tender with thin skin. Has excellent disease resistance.



Eureka (57 Days) The most disease-resistant cucumber in the world today! It's a Slicer! It's a Pickler! It's the All-Purpose Cuke!



Eggplant

Amadeo (65 days) Hardy and nice teardrop shaped plants. Each plant produced several eggplant for us last year. Eggplant do not need good soil to thrive so if you have marginal soil, try a couple!



Kohlrabi

Winner (54 days) hybrid, start picking when bulbs are about 3 inches. We let a few bulbs grow even bigger in 2015 and they did not get tough or pethy. Has a mild flavor.



Onion (Onion Plants) Home grown from seed!

Red Wing (Red)
Walla Walla (Yellow)
Sierra Blanca (White)

Pepper

Bells

Karisma Bell (75 Days to red)

Karisma Pepper Seeds produce high yields of large, smooth, thick-walled fruits that turn from glossy dark green to red as the peppers ripen. The Karisma Pepper plants are strong, with excellent disease resistance, and offer an extended harvest, continuously setting fruit from early season to late season.



Big Bertha Bell (72 Days)

The Big Bertha pepper plant produces 7 to 12-inch, peppers that ripens from green to red. This pepper will be one of the largest elongated peppers you'll grow, which is perfect to make giant stuffed peppers. The Big Bertha sweet peppers are crisp, crunchy, and extremely flavorful, and they don't produce many seeds which makes them excellent for slicing.



Red Knight: (72 days) King Arthur type with better disease resistance and a more compact open plant. Get a jump on the season with a large, early, green-to-red pepper. Big, blocky, thick-walled bell pepper turns red early.



Flavorburst:

Days to Maturity: 70 to 75 from transplant

Just when you think there's nothing new under the sun, Pepper Flavorburst comes along to delight your taste buds with an entirely new flavor. A thick-walled, juicy, succulent bell pepper, it is infused with the tart-sweet taste of lemon.

These fruits measure about 4 inches long and nearly as wide, with 4 thick lobes and glossy skin that turns from lime-green to deep gold.



Hamik Orange pepper: (95Days) Hamik is a mini orange pepper that has exceptional sweetness when harvested at the mature orange stage. The peppers are seedless and are produced on compact sturdy plants. Hamik's cone-shaped fruit measure 2-1/2" long by 1-1/4" wide, and have a crisp, juicy flesh. The fruit holds up well without refrigeration and ripen from light green to a brilliant orange.



Purple Beauty: (75Days) Fruits ripen from green to purple to red
Fruits are thick walled and crisp, Mild sweet flavor



Sweet Banana (72 Days) A sweet pepper in a banana shape



Tricked You Jalapeno Pepper (90 Days)

A sweet pepper that looks like a jalapeno. Trick all your friends when you make a sweet pepper popper! This variety replaces the fooled you variety we have had in the past. Tricked you provides a more consistent flavor.



Hot Peppers

Poblano - Trident



Anaheim(78 Days)A milder Chili



Jalapeno - Parks Whopper (72 Days) Large Jalapeno shape and fantastic flavor.

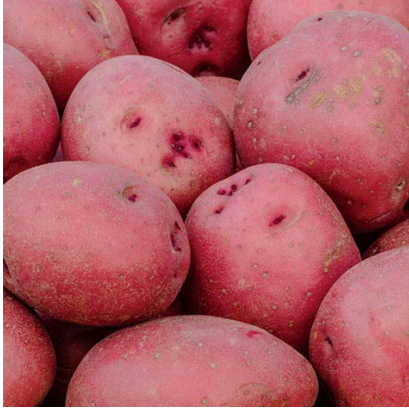


Hungarian hot Wax (70 days) A banana shaped hot pepper. A very good producer.

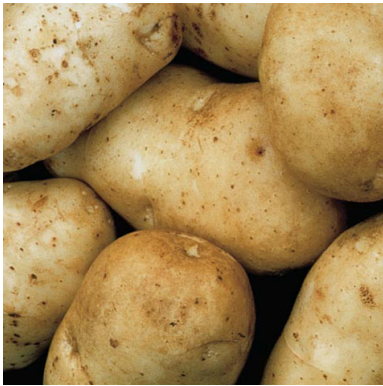


Potato (Seed Potatoes)

Red Pontiac (80-100 Days) The most popular potato with red skin.



Kennebec (80 - 100 Days) Great potato for baking.



Burbank Russet (120 Days)

Potato produces large, dependable yields of uniform, oblong, large, brown-skinned spuds. Its white, dry, flaky flesh bakes up perfectly, making it an ideal potato for baking as well as for frying and mashing This late-season potato takes some time to mature—often 120 days.



Squash

Summer:

Enterprise: (41 Days) Long, slender yellow fruit is creamy and mild. Picked young the rind is very tender.



Contender: Zucchini (50 Days) Smooth, straight, dark green, mottled fruits, on vigorous, early producing, bushy plants. Excellent flavor, best picked at 6-8 inches long.



Winter:

Frisco Butternut (90 Days) Small seed cavity and 20% more flesh means extra bites of meaty-sweet goodness from every squash! These squash can get large. We have gotten some 8 Pound fruits. They can store up to 4 months in a cool dry location.



Taybelle Acorn: (68 Days) A prolific Acorn squash, Grows on hearty bush plants. Resistant to most bugs and disease. 6-7 in fruits.



Spaghetti (88 Days) Skin is ivory changing to pale yellow at maturity. Bake like squash or boil and fork out the flesh, topping the "spaghetti" with your favorite sauce. 3-5 lb. oblong fruit. Avg. yield: 4-5 fruits/plant.



Sweet Potato (120 Days)

Beauregard plump orange

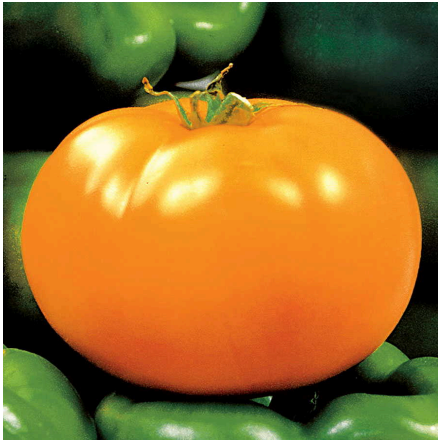


Vardaman: Bush Variety, Golden Yellow outside, Deep Bright inside
orange color



Tomato

Carolina Gold (Yellow) (75 Days) A golden yellow heirloom



Tachi Paste Tomato (76 Days) Large Paste type tomatoes. We grow them in our garden and love the large size and great taste.



Whopper (Red) (65 Days) This is our favorite Tomato



Ripe fruit 65 days from setting out transplants. Indeterminate . Parks seeds says this Tomato is simply the home gardener's dream tomato: greater disease resistance, higher yields, a longer season, and better taste! These big, juicy, crack-resistant tomatoes are 4 inches or more across, ripen uniformly (even when the weather is overcast!) .Will keep yielding right up till frost! And because they're meatier, you get even more succulent tomato flavor in every slice! Resistant to Verticillium Wilt, Root Knot Nematodes, Tobacco Mosaic

Virus, and 2 strains of Fusarium Wilt. Plant outdoors when danger of frost is past and night temperatures consistently remain above 55 degrees F. Set plants 2 to 2 1/2 feet apart.

Celebrity (70 Days) One of the old standbys. A medium sized tomato. Good disease resistance.



Supersweet 100: (65Days) Large clusters of great tasting cherry tomatoes. In determinate.

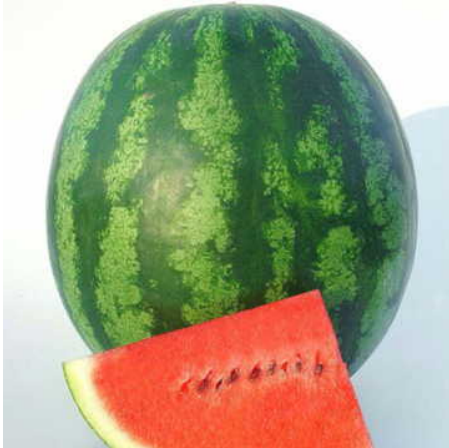


Sweet and Neat (Patio- cherry) (60 Days) Great for limited space or growing in a pot. Gives you hands full of marble sized tomatoes all summer. These little tomatoes are super sweet!



Watermelon:

Shiny Boy (90 Days): Seeded, The Richest Flavor, Quickest Finish, and Biggest Yields! You can grow this watermelon on a trellis to save garden space.



Bulk Seeds:

Beet: Beets are a cool-weather crop, direct-sown in fall or as soon as soil can be worked in spring. Before planting, make sure that the soil is as loose, rich, and well-drained as possible, so that the root can grow without stress.

Red Ace(53 Days) Vigorous plants produce early. The globes are smooth and rounded, with a deep scarlet cast and clearly-marked concentric rings. The flavor is smooth, tender, and sweet. Red Ace is a reliable and versatile performer. Try this classic and experience the finest in home-garden beets! We think you'll agree with us that this beet is far superior to Detroit Dark reds, we think it germinates better, produces better and is sweeter.



Carrot- Bolero 56-66 days. Smooth bright orange, 7-8 in blunt tip roots hold longer. Tops 15 in. Tolerant to PM and Alternaria Leaf Spot.



Green Bean: Jade II (60 Days) One of the best Green Beans out there.



Lettuce:

Salad Bowl Green (leaf) (45 Days) Juicy, bright leaves of dark green are lightly savoyed for extra crispness!



Salad Bowl Red



Premium Pea:(51 days) 2 1/2-3" pods with avg. 7-8 very sweet, medium-sized peas per pod. 30" vines



Little Sweetie Snap Pea:(60 Days) dwarf bush version of the "snow pea" family. Pods are harvested and eaten before they develop large peas. Stringless. Compact vines average 25 in/64 cm. Tolerant to July heat and most pea diseases. Pods are 4 1/2 x 3/4 in/11 1/2 x 2 cm long.



Radish:

Champion (25 Days): Smooth and round, with bright scarlet skin and crisp, white flesh. Sizes up in a hurry, slow to become pithy.



Spinach Whale - produces good, early yields of oval, dark green, smooth-leaved **spinach**. It makes an excellent item for baby leaf and bunched **spinach**.



Turnip

Purple Top White Globe

