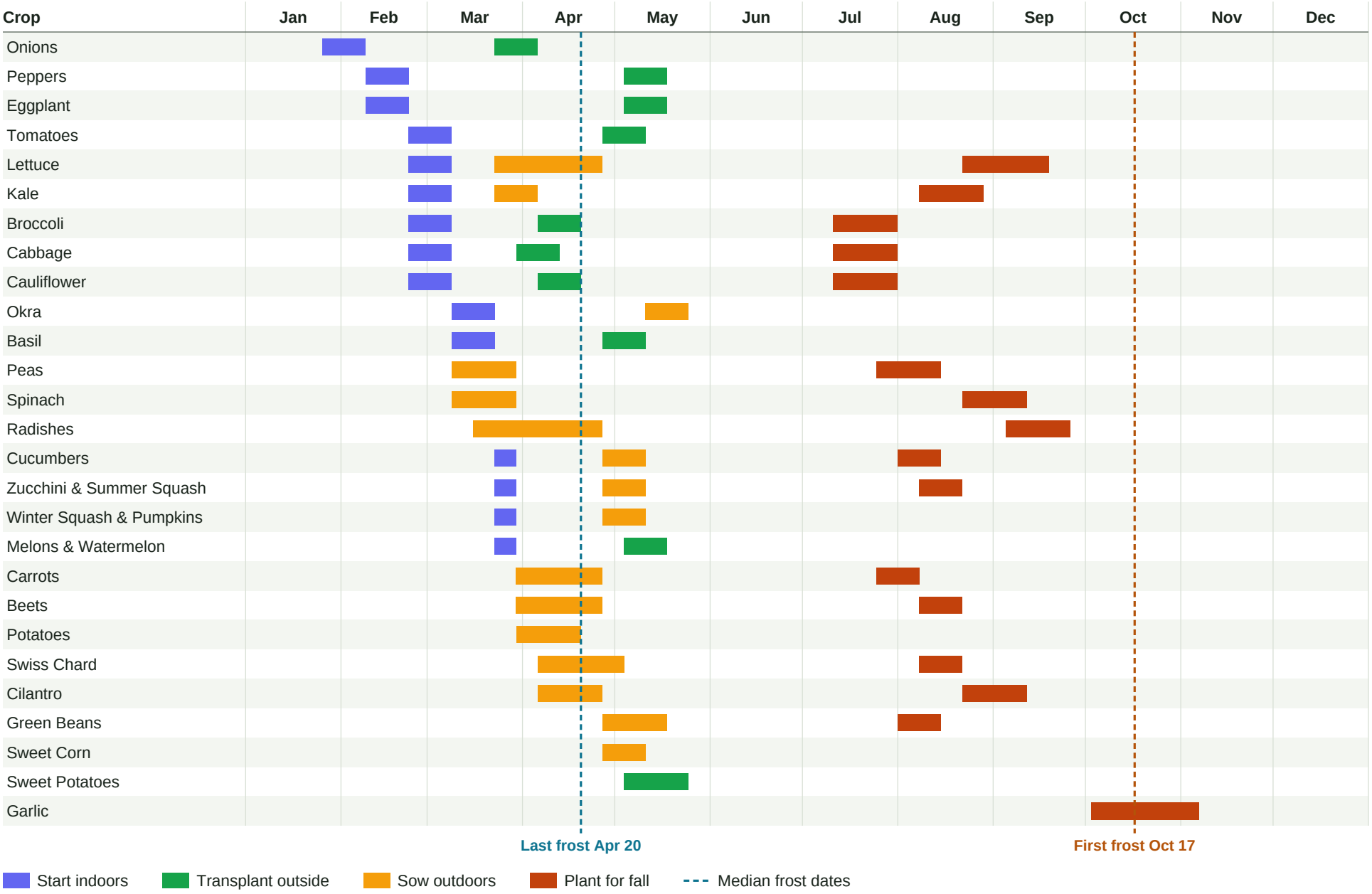
Essex, IA planting calendar

Median last frost Apr 20 (10% chance of frost after May 3) · Median first frost Oct 17 · 180-day growing season · Zone 5b



Essex, IA planting dates

Median last frost Apr 20 (10% chance of frost after May 3) · Median first frost Oct 17 · 180-day growing season · Zone 5b

Crop	Start indoors	Transplant outside	Sow outdoors	Plant for fall
Onions	Jan 26 – Feb 9	Mar 23 – Apr 6	—	—
Peppers	Feb 9 – Feb 23	May 4 – May 18	—	—
Eggplant	Feb 9 – Feb 23	May 4 – May 18	—	—
Tomatoes	Feb 23 – Mar 9	Apr 27 – May 11	—	—
Lettuce	Feb 23 – Mar 9	Mar 30 – Apr 13	Mar 23 – Apr 27	Aug 22 – Sep 19
Kale	Feb 23 – Mar 9	Mar 23 – Apr 6	Mar 23 – Apr 6	Aug 8 – Aug 29
Broccoli	Feb 23 – Mar 9	Apr 6 – Apr 20	—	Jul 11 – Aug 1
Cabbage	Feb 23 – Mar 9	Mar 30 – Apr 13	—	Jul 11 – Aug 1
Cauliflower	Feb 23 – Mar 9	Apr 6 – Apr 20	—	Jul 11 – Aug 1
Okra	Mar 9 – Mar 23	May 11 – May 25	May 11 – May 25	—
Basil	Mar 9 – Mar 23	Apr 27 – May 11	—	—
Peas	—	—	Mar 9 – Mar 30	Jul 25 – Aug 15
Spinach	—	—	Mar 9 – Mar 30	Aug 22 – Sep 12
Radishes	—	—	Mar 16 – Apr 27	Sep 5 – Sep 26
Cucumbers	Mar 23 – Mar 30	May 4 – May 11	Apr 27 – May 11	Aug 1 – Aug 15
Zucchini & Summer Squash	Mar 23 – Mar 30	—	Apr 27 – May 11	Aug 8 – Aug 22
Winter Squash & Pumpkins	Mar 23 – Mar 30	—	Apr 27 – May 11	—
Melons & Watermelon	Mar 23 – Mar 30	May 4 – May 18	—	—
Carrots	—	—	Mar 30 – Apr 27	Jul 25 – Aug 8
Beets	—	—	Mar 30 – Apr 27	Aug 8 – Aug 22
Potatoes	—	—	Mar 30 – Apr 20	—
Swiss Chard	—	—	Apr 6 – May 4	Aug 8 – Aug 22
Cilantro	—	—	Apr 6 – Apr 27	Aug 22 – Sep 12
Green Beans	—	—	Apr 27 – May 18	Aug 1 – Aug 15
Sweet Corn	—	—	Apr 27 – May 11	—
Sweet Potatoes	—	May 4 – May 25	—	—
Garlic	—	—	—	Oct 3 – Nov 7

Wait until after May 3 (only a 10% chance of frost) to plant out the most frost-tender crops: tomatoes, peppers, basil, melons.