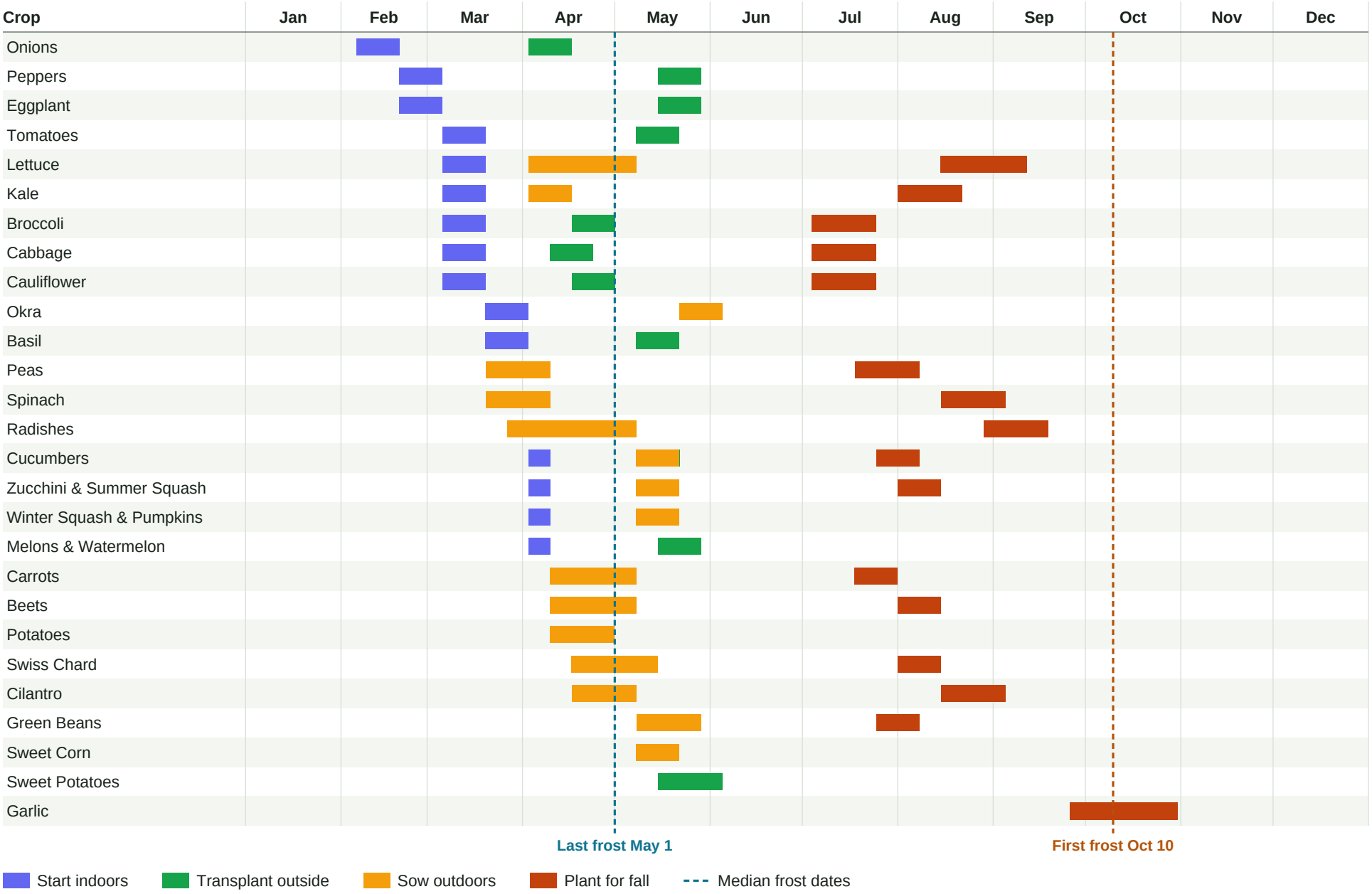
Madison, WI planting calendar

Median last frost May 1 (10% chance of frost after May 16) · Median first frost Oct 10 · 162-day growing season · Zone 5b



whenisthelastfrost.com/zip/53783/ · Frost dates: NOAA 1991–2020 climate normals. These are 30-year averages, not forecasts: check the forecast before planting.

Madison, WI planting dates

Median last frost May 1 (10% chance of frost after May 16) · Median first frost Oct 10 · 162-day growing season · Zone 5b

Crop	Start indoors	Transplant outside	Sow outdoors	Plant for fall
Onions	Feb 6 – Feb 20	Apr 3 – Apr 17	—	—
Peppers	Feb 20 – Mar 6	May 15 – May 29	—	—
Eggplant	Feb 20 – Mar 6	May 15 – May 29	—	—
Tomatoes	Mar 6 – Mar 20	May 8 – May 22	—	—
Lettuce	Mar 6 – Mar 20	Apr 10 – Apr 24	Apr 3 – May 8	Aug 15 – Sep 12
Kale	Mar 6 – Mar 20	Apr 3 – Apr 17	Apr 3 – Apr 17	Aug 1 – Aug 22
Broccoli	Mar 6 – Mar 20	Apr 17 – May 1	—	Jul 4 – Jul 25
Cabbage	Mar 6 – Mar 20	Apr 10 – Apr 24	—	Jul 4 – Jul 25
Cauliflower	Mar 6 – Mar 20	Apr 17 – May 1	—	Jul 4 – Jul 25
Okra	Mar 20 – Apr 3	May 22 – Jun 5	May 22 – Jun 5	—
Basil	Mar 20 – Apr 3	May 8 – May 22	—	—
Peas	—	—	Mar 20 – Apr 10	Jul 18 – Aug 8
Spinach	—	—	Mar 20 – Apr 10	Aug 15 – Sep 5
Radishes	—	—	Mar 27 – May 8	Aug 29 – Sep 19
Cucumbers	Apr 3 – Apr 10	May 15 – May 22	May 8 – May 22	Jul 25 – Aug 8
Zucchini & Summer Squash	Apr 3 – Apr 10	—	May 8 – May 22	Aug 1 – Aug 15
Winter Squash & Pumpkins	Apr 3 – Apr 10	—	May 8 – May 22	—
Melons & Watermelon	Apr 3 – Apr 10	May 15 – May 29	—	—
Carrots	—	—	Apr 10 – May 8	Jul 18 – Aug 1
Beets	—	—	Apr 10 – May 8	Aug 1 – Aug 15
Potatoes	—	—	Apr 10 – May 1	—
Swiss Chard	—	—	Apr 17 – May 15	Aug 1 – Aug 15
Cilantro	—	—	Apr 17 – May 8	Aug 15 – Sep 5
Green Beans	—	—	May 8 – May 29	Jul 25 – Aug 8
Sweet Corn	—	—	May 8 – May 22	—
Sweet Potatoes	—	May 15 – Jun 5	—	—
Garlic	—	—	—	Sep 26 – Oct 31

Wait until after May 16 (only a 10% chance of frost) to plant out the most frost-tender crops: tomatoes, peppers, basil, melons.