

Weekly Newsletter
from Agresource Inc.
for turning waste into
opportunity

Why Plant Early?

Taking advantage of early-season crops helps maximize your garden's productivity and reduces pressure during the busy late spring planting rush. It also allows you to harvest fresh, homegrown vegetables sooner while making efficient use of cooler temperatures and spring rainfall.

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*"Nature does not hurry,
yet everything is
accomplished."*

— Lao Tzu

Top Three Early-Season Vegetables to Plant

As the ground begins to thaw and the days grow longer, early spring offers a valuable window for gardeners to get a head start on the growing season. While warm-season crops need consistent heat, several hardy vegetables thrive in cool soil and can tolerate light frosts. Planting these early performers not only extends your harvest but also makes the most of the season's natural moisture and milder temperatures.

1. Peas – A Cool-Weather Classic

Peas are one of the first vegetables you can plant as soon as the soil is workable. They germinate well in cool temperatures and actually prefer conditions that would slow down many other crops. Whether you choose snap peas, snow peas, or shelling varieties, they all benefit from early planting.

Peas grow best in well-drained soil and full sun. Because they are climbing plants, most varieties will need some type of trellis or support. One added benefit is that peas help improve soil health by fixing nitrogen, making them a great precursor to heavier-feeding crops later in the season. With proper timing, you can expect a harvest before the heat of early summer arrives.

2. Spinach – Nutritious and Resilient

Spinach is another excellent early-season crop that thrives in cool weather. It can germinate in soil temperatures as low as the low 40s°F and grows quickly once established. Spinach is particularly well-suited for early planting because it tends to bolt (go to seed) when temperatures rise, making spring the ideal time to grow it.

This leafy green prefers rich, moist soil and can be harvested multiple times by cutting outer leaves while allowing the plant to continue growing. Spinach is also a strong candidate for succession planting, meaning you can sow seeds every couple of weeks for a steady supply throughout the spring.

3. Radishes – Quick Results

If you're looking for fast results, radishes are hard to beat. Many varieties mature in as little as three to four weeks, making them one of the quickest crops from seed to harvest. They germinate reliably in cool soil and are very forgiving for beginner gardeners.

Radishes grow best in loose, well-drained soil that allows their roots to develop evenly. Because of their rapid growth, they are ideal for filling gaps in the garden. In addition to their culinary use, radishes can help break up compacted soil and serve as a marker crop.

