

Seed Varieties for Sanders County

The following seed varieties are tried and true here in Sanders County, specifically as grown between Plains and Thompson Falls. They grow enthusiastically, give good yields, have good flavor and have been reliable despite spring, summer and fall weather variances. All suggested varieties are open pollinated, therefore, seed can be saved for the following years.

BROCCOLI, CABBAGE, CABBAGE, CAULIFLOWER, KALE - All members of the Brassica family do well here in Sanders County. Brussel Sprouts and Cauliflower are pickier than others. Start indoors in March, plant in May, cover with a row cover to keep bugs out. Chinese Cabbage is wonderful here - if you haven't tried it yet, it is a very fast grower. I harvested June 15 last year (planted May 1).

CORN - Painted Mountain Corn was developed by a gardener in Eastern Montana who searched for genetically diverse corns among indigenous people groups worldwide. It can be planted earlier than any other corn, grows to about 5 feet, and produces one or two ears of excellent flour corn. If harvested early, it can be used for corn on the cob, canning or freezing. Excellent dried and ground for a corn flour for cornbread and muffins. It has been reported to even come up through snow. Very hardy, very productive, multi-colored. **G**

BEANS - Rattlesnake Pole Beans out-produce most other varieties about 2 to 1. Great flavor, even delicious raw off the vine. Can also be used as a dried bean. **PT, BC, V**

Northeaster Pole is a highly productive pole for this area, flat, great flavor. **V**

Dragon Langerie (or Dragon's Tongue) bush beans have good flavor, good producer. **PT, BC, V**

Yellow Indian Woman bean was obtained from tribal sources in Montana and North Dakota. This bush bean is used for the dried bean, for chili, baked beans, soup, or other dried bean uses.

Ireland Creek Annie is a bean from Canada. Similar to above. **V**

ONIONS - Southport Red Globe is an outstanding red onion that keeps for six months or longer, and really likes our climate.

Ailsa Craig is a yellow onion that is very large and great for drying, fresh use and freezing, but only stores for two months or so. **PT**

CELERY - Golden Self-Blanching is insect resistant. **PT**

TOMATOES - Amish Paste, Opalka, Striped Roman and most any cherry tomato grow well here. Start tomatoes and peppers indoors in March.

PEPPERS - Golden Treasure produces an abundance of long Italian sweet peppers. **TT, S&S**

Jalapenos, (hot) early, late, and Black Hungarian, all seem to do well here. (many sources)

King of the North is a great sweet bell pepper for this area, but is out-produced two or three to one by Golden Treasure. **S&S, TT**

PEAS - Super Sugar Snap is an excellent producer, most years yielding from June to frost. Requires fencing or other support, as it grows up to six feet tall. An improved variety of Sugar Snap, with greater production. This is a snap pea, so you use pod and all. **PT**

SOURCES: **G** = Gurney's **PT** = Pine Tree Seeds **BC** = Baker Creek **TT** = Totally Tomato **S&S** = Seeds and Such **V** = Vermont Bean and Seed.