



Crop Rotation for your Organic Garden

The Theory: Crop Rotation is the practice of changing or rotating growing areas in your garden. Plant groups are rotated according to their nutrient needs, and to avoid pest & disease problems, and it works well!

For example, you could change the place where Potatoes grow each year so that pests who specifically attack Potatoes do not build up in that area. Also, the nutrients needed by healthy, growing Potatoes will slowly be leached out of your soil, until the nutrient bank is very low & then you will notice problems such as large pest numbers & poor crop yields.

When you rotate the crops grown in each area, you will notice a balance in your garden, healthier soil & greater yields of harvest!

The general rule of crop rotation:

Crop rotation can be slightly different for every garden, due to space available, climate, choice of veggies etc. The general rule can also be fairly vague because of . So here is a form of crop rotation and a bit more detail... As long as you rotate the **type** of veggie each year (plant them in different plots each time), you should be maintaining the soil health nicely. Keep in mind those veggies like marrows, courgettes, and cucumber and pumpkin love BIG areas.

**** Do not plant potatoes where tomatoes, egg plants or peppers have been grown the previous season.**

FIRST YEAR			
Bed 1	Bed 2	Bed 3	Bed 4
Beans Celery Corn Eggplant Onions Peas Peppers Squash Tomatoes	Broccoli Brussels Sprouts Cabbage Cauliflower Lettuce Sweet Basil	Beets Carrots Potatoes ** Radishes Turnips Dill	Spread/ till in compost or "green manure". Plant a cover crop. See Yankee Gardener Glossary.

SECOND YEAR			
Bed 1	Bed 2	Bed 3	Bed 4
Spread/ till in compost or "green manure". Plant a cover crop. See Yankee Gardener Glossary.	Beans Celery Corn Eggplant Onions Peas Peppers Squash Tomatoes	Broccoli Brussels Sprouts Cabbage Cauliflower Lettuce Sweet Basil	Beets Carrots Potatoes ** Radishes Turnips Dill

THIRD YEAR			
Bed 1	Bed 2	Bed 3	Bed 4
Beets Carrots Potatoes ** Radishes Turnips Dill	Spread/ till in compost or "green manure". Plant a cover crop. See Yankee Gardener Glossary.	Beans Celery Corn Eggplant Onions Peas Peppers Squash Tomatoes	Broccoli Brussels Sprouts Cabbage Cauliflower Lettuce Sweet Basil

FOURTH YEAR			
Bed 1	Bed 2	Bed 3	Bed 4
Broccoli Brussels Sprouts Cabbage Cauliflower Lettuce Sweet Basil	Beets Carrots Potatoes ** Radishes Turnips Dill	Spread/ till in compost or "green manure". Plant a cover crop. See Yankee Gardener Glossary.	Beans Celery Corn Eggplant Onions Peas Peppers Squash Tomatoes

Please check regularly on www.easy-veg.co.nz for useful links and guides that are being added.

Comments and feedback sent to info@easy-veg.co.nz are always welcome and appreciated.

This information is a living document and I will update you by email of further developments.

Mick Palmer