

Seeds to sow in spring

Much depends on your local micro-climate, as to whether you sow direct or in pots and trays. In cooler regions and southern areas, it pays to err on the side of caution and sow tender vegetables in pots and trays. Alternatively, by-pass the trays and sow direct under the cover of a growing tunnel, which will help the soil warm up and protect seedlings as they germinate.

Seeds to sow in trays now include:

Vegetables:

Cold areas: broccoli, Brussel's sprouts and cauliflower.

All areas: cabbage, celery, endive, leeks, lettuce, peppers (capsicum and chillies), silver beet and tomatoes.

Flowers:

Cold areas: ageratum, bellis, calceolaria, celosia, cockscomb, cornflower, marigold, nemesia, pansy, scabiosa and viola.

All areas: aster, balsam, begonia, coleus, coreopsis, dahlia, delphinium, helichrysum, honesty, impatiens, Livingstone daisy, lobelia, petunia, phlox, portulaca, rudbeckia, salvia, snapdragon and zinnia.



Zinnia



Cosmos



Petunia

Seeds to sow in individual pots now include:

Vegetables:

Cold areas: beans, cucumbers, eggplant, marrow, melons, okra, pumpkin, squash, sweet corn and zucchini.

Flowers:

Most flowers that have large seeds (e.g. lupins and sweet peas) germinate easily from seed when direct sown, as they do not require warmer soil temperatures like the more tender vegetables listed above.



Red cabbage

Seeds to sow direct now include:

Vegetables:

Warm areas: beans, cucumbers, eggplant, marrow, melons, okra, pumpkin, squash, tomatoes and zucchini.

Cold areas: kohlrabi, peas and turnips.

All areas: beets, carrots, chicory, Chinese cabbage, lettuce, mesclun, parsnip, radish, rocket, salsify and spring onions.

Flowers:

Cold areas: calendula, candytuft, lupin, mignonette, nemophila, statice and sweet pea.

Warm areas: ageratum, celosia, cockscomb and marigold.

All areas: alyssum, amaranthus, bells of Ireland, Californian poppy, cleome, cosmos, gypsophila, larkspur, linaria, nasturtium, sweet William, sunflower and viscaria.