

## Last year the first frost was November 11, 2014

### Possibility of Frost listing for Bristol County, MA

Temperature	10%	20%	30%	40%	50%	60%	70%	80%	90%
Spring 32°	May 19	May 14	May 11	May 8	May 5	May 2	Apr 29	Apr 26	Apr 21
Spring 28°	May 4	Apr 30	Apr 27	Apr 24	Apr 22	Apr 19	Apr 16	Apr 13	Apr 9
Spring 24°	Apr 22	Apr 17	Apr 13	Apr 10	Apr 6	Apr 3	Mar 31	Mar 27	Mar 22
Fall 32°	Sep 21	Sep 26	Sep 29	Oct 2	Oct 5	Oct 8	Oct 11	Oct 15	Oct 20
Fall 28°	Oct 5	Oct 10	Oct 14	Oct 17	Oct 20	Oct 23	Oct 26	Oct 30	Nov 3
Fall 24°	Oct 16	Oct 23	Oct 27	Oct 31	Nov 3	Nov 6	Nov 10	Nov 15	Nov 21

To determine your optimum dates for sowing fall crops, add three weeks to the days to maturity ratings listed below or shown on your seed packs to compensate for days that are getting shorter. Then count back from your **average first fall frost date** to find the date you should sow each crop. Cool-season plants will continue to grow a little after nights turn chilly, but they will make most of their new growth early on, while the weather is still warm.

Many of the best crops of fall — including salad greens and various cabbage cousins — will refuse to germinate in soil warmer than 85 degrees, so the seeds are best started indoors (on a 90-degree day, surface soil temperatures may actually be 110 degrees or more). The procedure for growing seedlings is the same as in spring (see [Seed Starting Basics](#)), but care for transplanted seedlings requires some extra hardware. Insect pressure in late summer is severe, so use homemade or purchased lightweight row covers to exclude critters. (See [The No-Spray Way to Protect Plants](#)) It helps to shade each seedling with a light-colored flowerpot, pail or other cover for two to three days after transplanting. Protected from scorching sun, the seedlings can concentrate on growing reliable roots.

Cabbage and broccoli seedlings need to be planted at least eight weeks before the first fall frost, and as long as their roots are kept moist, they seem to benefit from a spell of hot weather as late summer days become shorter. When set out so late that they miss the last warm spells, cabbage cousins tend to stop growing too soon. Whether you're working with seedlings you grew yourself or bought at a store, get them in the ground as soon as you can.

<b>FALL HARVEST CROPS</b>	<b>Days to Maturity</b>	<b>If planted July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015</b>	<b>Add 7-21 days for shorter days and weather conditions</b>
beets	55 to 60	Sept 19- Sept 24	Sept 26 – Oct 15
broccoli	70 to 80	Oct 3- Oct 13	Oct 10- Oct 24
Brussels sprouts	90 to 100	Oct 23 – Nov 2	Oct 30 – Nov 23
cauliflower	55 to 65	Sept 19 – Sept 24	Sept 26 – Oct 15
cabbage	70 to 80	Oct 3 – Oct 13	Oct 10 – Nov 3
carrots	85 to 95	Oct 19 – Oct 29	Oct 26 – Nov 19
collard greens	60 to 100	Sept 24 – Nov 2	Oct 1 – Nov 23
green beans	50 to 60	Sept 14 – Oct 8	Sept 21 – Oct 29
green onions	50 to 60	Sept 14 – Sept 24	Sept 21 – Oct 15
kale	40 to 50	Sept 4 – Sept 14	Sept 11 – Oct 5
kohlrabi	50 to 60	Sept 14 – Sept 24	Sept 21 – Oct 15
lettuce (leaf)	40 to 50	Sept 4 - Sept 14	Sept 11 – Oct 5
lettuce (head)	70 to 85	Oct 3 – Oct 18	Oct 10 – Nov 8
mustard greens	30 to 40	Aug 26 – Sept 4	Sep 2 - Sept 25
onions (sets)	60 to 80	Sept 24 – Oct 14	Oct 1 – Nov 4
peas	50 to 60	Sept 14 – Sept 24	Sept 21 – Oct 15
radishes	25 to 30	August 20 – Aug 25	Aug 27 – Sept 15
rutabaga	70 to 80	Oct 3 – Oct 13	Oct 10- Nov3
spinach	50 to 60	Sept 14 – Sept 24	Sept 21 – Oct 15
*Straight neck Squash	50 to 60	Sept 14 – Sept 24	Sept 21 – Oct 15
Swiss chard	30 to 50	Aug 26 – Sept 15	Sept 2 – Oct 6
turnips	55 to 60	Sept 19 – Sept 24	Sept 26 – Oct 15
*Zucchini	55 to 65	Sept 19 – Sept 29	Sept 26 – Oct 20