

Zone 9b planting guide

Average coldest winter night 25 to 30°F (-4 to -1°C). Places in zone 9b include Houston, TX, Sacramento, CA, Las Vegas, NV, New Orleans, LA.

LAST SPRING FROST

February 1

Middle half of ZIPs: January 24 to February 13

FIRST FALL FROST

December 9

Middle half of ZIPs: December 1 to December 17

FROST-FREE DAYS

About 311

Between the two median dates

SPRING: WHAT TO PLANT AND WHEN

Group	Plant outside	Crops
Hardy crops tolerate a hard frost	December 21 to January 4	Asparagus, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, collards, horseradish, kale, kohlrabi, leek, mustard, onion, peas, potato, radish, rhubarb, spinach, turnip
Semi-hardy crops tolerate a light frost	January 4 to January 18	Beet, carrot, cauliflower, celery, chard, Chinese cabbage, lettuce, mustard, parsnip
Tender crops damaged by frost	From February 1	Bean, sweet corn, tomato
Very tender crops warm season	From February 15	Cucumber, eggplant, melons, okra, pepper, pumpkin, squash, sweet potato

FALL GARDEN

Count back from the first fall frost (December 9): days to harvest, plus about 14 days because growth slows in fall, plus 14 more for frost-tender crops. A 50-day crop goes in by **October 6**, a 70-day crop by **September 16**.

Semi-hardy (take light frost)	Beets, mustard, radishes, spinach, Swiss chard, green onions
Hardy (take several frosts)	Cabbage, carrots, turnips, rutabagas, kale

My ZIP code

My last frost

My first frost

Perennials, shrubs and trees: choose plants rated for zone 9 or colder (a lower number). In zone 9b you are in the warmer half of zone 9, so a plant rated "to zone 9" is a little inside its range.

Frost dates: medians across 2,085 zone 9b ZIP codes, from the nearest NOAA 1991-2020 climate normals station (32°F, 50% chance). Spring timing: Purdue Extension HO-186-W. Fall method and crops: University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension NebGuide G1343. Your own dates by ZIP code: plantsdirectusa.com.

