The finest seeds will lead to the finest gardens. North Dakota State University and its team of over 200 gardeners evaluate promising cultivars every summer. The following cultivars have excelled in these and other trials in the Midwest:

**ASPARAGUS.** Jersey Giant, Jersey Knight, Jersey Supreme, Purple Passion.

**BEAN. Bush:** Blue Lake 274, Crockett, Derby, Espada, Greencrop, Jade, Maxibel, Provider, Royal Burgundy, Serengeti, Strike. **Dry:** Arikara Yellow, Great Northern. **Lima:** Fordhook 242, Eastland. **Pole:** Fortex, Orient Wonder, Stringless Blue Lake S-7. **Soybean:** Envy. **Wax:** Carson, Gold Rush, Roedor, Soleil.

**BEET.** Boldor, Bull’s Blood, Detroit Dark Red, Early Wonder, Merlin, Red Ace.

**BROCCOLI.** Packman.

**BRUSSELS SPROUTS.** Jade Cross E.

**CABBAGE.** Chinese: Blues. **Head:** Early Jersey Wakefield, Golden Acre, Ruby Perfection, Stonehead.

**CORN. Normal:** Butter & Sugar, Jubilee, Hercules, Laguna, Mokum, Nelson, New Kuroda, Scarlet Nantes. **Other:** Chablis Yellow, Purple Haze, Rainbow.

**CAULIFLOWER.** Amazing, Cheddar, Snow Crown, Violet Queen.


**EGGPLANT.** Black Beauty, Dusky, Fairy Tale, Millionaire, Orient Express.

**GREENS.** Hon Tsai Tai, Joi Choi, Komatsuna, Mizuna, Mei Qing Choi, Osaka Purple, Red Giant, Tatsoi, Tendergreen, Vegetable Amaranth.


**KOHLRABI.** Early White Vienna, Kolibri, Kossak, Winner.

**LETTUCE.** Leaf: Deer Tongue, New Red Fire, Red Sails, Red Velvet, Red Salad Bowl, Royal Oakleaf, Salad Bowl, Slobolt, Tropicana. **Bibb/Crisphead:** Buttercrunch, Nancy, Nevada, Red Cross, Sierra, Skyphos. **Romaine:** Crisp Mint, Green Forest.

**MELON.** Muskmelon: Athena, Goddess, Solstice, Superstar. **Specialty:** Arava, Earli-Dew, Passport, Sun Jewel.

**OKRA.** Cajun Delight, Carmine Splendor, Clemson Spineless.

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** Cultivar selection checklist:**
- Early maturity
- Flavorful
- Resists diseases
- Productive
- Widely adapted (cool soil, dry weather)
ONION. Ailsa Craig, Candy, Copra, Sweet Sandwich, Walla Walla.


RADISH. Standard: Amethyst, Cherry Belle, Easter Egg II, French Breakfast, Pretty in Pink, Rover, White Icicle.

RUTABAGA. American Purple Top.

SPINACH. Bloomsdale Long Standing, Melody, Olympia, SV2157VB, Tyee.


SWEET POTATO. Beauregard.

SWISS CHARD. Bright Lights, Lucullus, Oriole, Peppermint, Rhubarb.


TURNIP. Purple Top White Globe, Tokyo Cross.


Seed Sources

The following is a sample of companies offering seeds. This list is provided for educational purposes only; no discrimination is intended and no endorsement is implied.

Baker Creek Heirloom Seed, 2278 Baker Creek Rd., Mansfield, MO 65704; www.rareseeds.com; 417.924.8917.

Burpee Seed, 300 Park Ave., Warminster, PA 18974; www.burpee.com; 800.888.1447.

Fedco Seeds, PO Box 520, Waterville, ME 04903; www.fedcoseeds.com; 207.426.9900.

Gurney’s Seed and Nursery, PO Box 4178, Greendale, IN 47025; www.gurneys.com; 315.354.1492.

Harris Seeds, 355 Paul Rd, PO Box 24966, Rochester, NY 14624; www.harrisseeds.com; 800.544.7938.

Henry Fields, PO Box 397, Aurora, IN 47001; www.henryfields.com; 513.354.1494.

Horticultural Products and Services, W. Stroud St., Randolph, WI 53956; www.hpsseed.com; 800.297.3123.

Johnny’s Selected Seeds, 955 Benton Ave., Winslow, ME 04901; www.johnnyseeds.com; 877.564.6697.

Jung Seed, 335 S. High St., Randolph, WI 53956; www.jungseed.com; 800.297.3123.

Kitazawa Seed, 201 Fourth St., #206; Oakland, CA 94607; www.kitazawaseed.com; 510.595.1188.

Mountain Valley Seed, 175 W. 2700 S., Salt Lake City, UT 84115; www.mvseeds.com; 801.486.0480.


Pinetree Garden Seeds, PO Box 300, Gloucester, ME 04260; www.superseeds.com; 207.926.3400.

Prairie Road Organic Seed, 9824 79th St. SE, Fullerton, ND 58441; www.prairieroadorganic.co; 701.883.4416.

Seed Savers Exchange, 3094 N. Winn Rd., Decorah, IA 52101; www.seedsavers.org; 563.382.5990.

Stokes Seeds, PO Box 548 Buffalo, NY 14240; www.stokesseeds.com; 800.396.9238.

Territorial Seed, PO Box 158, Cottage Grove, OR 97424; www.territorialseed.com; 800.626.0866.

All gardeners are invited to join our team of backyard researchers. Go to www.ag.ndsu.edu/homegardenvarietylists.