The finest cultivars 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, Purple Queen Improved, Royal Burgundy, Serengeti, Strike. **Dry:** Arikara Yellow, Great Northern. **Lima:** Fordhook 242, Eastland. **Pole:** Fortex, Orient Wonder, Stringless Blue Lake S-7. **Soybean:** Tohya. **Wax:** Carson, Gold Rush, Rocdor, Soleil.

**BEET.** Avalanche, Boldor, Bull’s Blood, Detroit Dark Red, Early Wonder Tall Top, Merlin, Red Ace, Touchstone Gold.

**BROCCOLI.** Packman.

**BRUSSELS SPROUTS.** Jade Cross E.

**CABBAGE. Chinese:** Blues. **Head:** Early Jersey Wakefield, Golden Acre, Ruby Perfection, Stonehead. **Other:** Chablis Yellow, Purple Haze.

**CARROT. Orange:** Bolero, Caracas, Goldfinger, Hercules, Laguna, Mokum, Nelson, New Kuroda, Scarlet Nantes. **Other:**

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

**CORN. Shrunken kernel:** SS2742, Vision, Xtra-Tender 274A and 277A, XTH20173. **Sugary enhanced:** Ambrosia, Bodacious, Delectable, Luscious, Sugar Buns, Sugar Pearl, Temptation. **Synergistic:** Allure, Cuppa Joe, Honey Select.

**CUCUMBER. Pickling:** Alibi, Calypso, Eureka, Homemade Pickles, H-19 Little Leaf. **Slicing:** Dasher II, Diva, Fanfare, General Lee, Muncher, Orient Express II, Raider, Salad Bush, Silver Slicer, Straight Eight, Summer Dance, Sweet Slice, Sweet Success, Tasty Green.

**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 Salad Bowl, Red Velvet, Royal Oakleaf, Salad Bowl, Slobolt, Starfighter, Tropicana. **Bibb/Crisphead:** Buttercrunch, Nancy, Nevada, Red Cross, Sierra, Skyphos. **Romaine:** Crisp Mint, Fusion, Green Forest, Starhawk.

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

**OKRA.** 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, Roxanne, White Icicle.

RUTABAGA. American Purple Top.

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


SWEET POTATO. Beauregard.

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


TURNIP. Hakurei, 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; 513.354.1492.

Harris Seeds, 355 Paul Rd, PO Box 24966, Rochester, NY 14624; www.harrisseed.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.

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

Krispy Kreme, 201 Acorn Ave., Waltham, MA 02451; www.krispykreme.com; 800.944.5080.

Mountain Valley Seed, 175 W. 2700 S., Salt Lake City, UT 84113; 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.com; 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/homegardenvarietytrials/

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