



Veggie Guide – February.

February is the transition month when it comes to veggie gardening in Mudgee. You can still squeeze in a final crop of a few summer veg and it is also time to start planting and sowing winter crops.

Kristie lives in town and finds that she can get a final summer veg crop through to April and some years early May before the frosts hit but she does plant advanced seedlings that are flowering or have small fruits on them. Seedlings of cucumber, cherry toms, banana capsicum, rocket, basil, zucchini, and beans can all go in during the first 2-3 weeks of February. Don't try melons or pumpkins as they require a long maturation period. You could have a go at sweet corn but keep in mind that they take around 14 weeks to mature to harvest.

Winter veg to sow now include onion seeds, chives, shallots, spring onions. You can also start cabbages, Asian veggies, Brussels sprouts and broccoli. Root veggies can also be grown from seed including beetroot, carrot, turnips, etc. Peas and lettuces can go in towards the end of February. Contrary to popular belief, lettuces grow best over the cooler months. They are sweeter and do not bolt to seed as they are prone to do in summer. If you are sowing seeds, keep them moist and in light shade during these last hot weeks. The trick is to stagger your planting. Sow/plant one week and again a fortnight later through February and March. This will provide you with constant cropping through winter and will help avoid gluts.

If you have any further questions about veg planting, contact us at the nursery or head to the Organic Gardener Australia or the Gardening Australia webpage and check out their veggie guide. They also have a fantastic veggie app which comes in very handy.

Plant Now – Advanced Seedlings (Wk1-3 February)

Cucumber, Cherry Tomatoes, Capsicum, Rocket, Basil, parsley, Zucchini, Green beans

Sow/Plant Now (Winter crops)

Onions, shallots, spring onions, chives, leeks

Carrots, Swedes, turnips, kohlrabi, beetroot, radish, parsnip

Lettuce, fennel, endive, silverbeet, peas

Cabbage, brussels sprouts, broccoli, Asian veggies – bok choy, bok choy, choy sum etc

