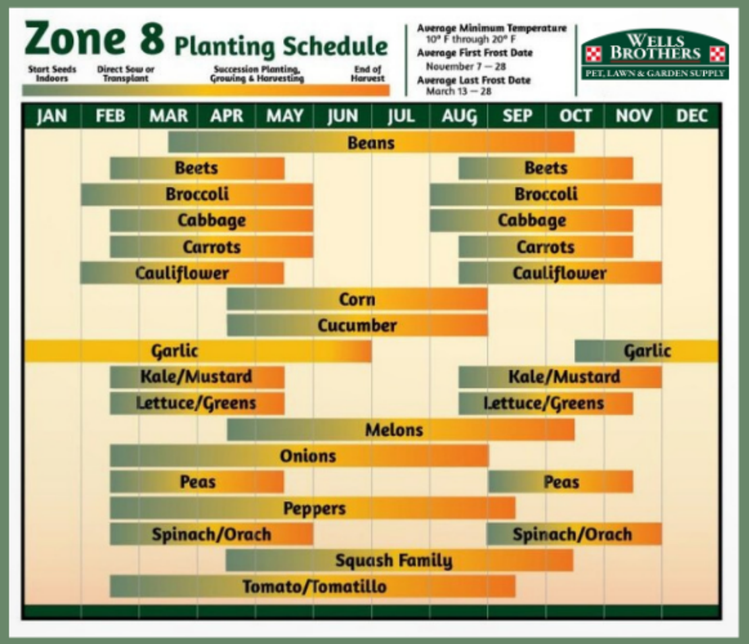

December
Last Quarter 1
New Moon 8
First Quarter 17
Full Moon 23
Last Quarter 30
Day's Length
10h 10m-10h 2m

Beautiful Beets

"Cabbage Turnip"

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						Hanukkah Begins 5
6	Pearl Harbor Day 1941 7	8	9	10	11	**Santa Paws 11-3** 12
U.S. National Guard Birthday 13	14	Bill of Rights Day 15	16	17	18	**Customer Appreciation Santa Clause or Paws 11-3** 19
U.S. Space Force Birthday 20	Winter Begins 21	22	23	**Super Cold Moon** 24	Christmas Day 25	Boxing Day 26
27	28	29	30	New Years Eve 31		

Earthy and sweet, beets offer a harvest of baby roots and greens in spring and larger, storage-size roots in fall and early winter.

PLANTING

Ideal conditions include full sun and decent, well-drained soil amended with an inch of compost. Space seeds 1 inch apart in rows of 12 or 18 inches apart. Thin seedlings when they're about 4 inches tall.

HARVESTING

Baby beets can be pulled when the roots are just 1 to 2 inches in diameter. I try to pull every second root, leaving the rest to continue growing. Beets become woody and tough if left in the garden too long, so check your seed packet for harvest times.

EXTENDING THE HARVEST

Pick beets into the winter by thickly mulching the beds before the ground freeze or planting a fall crop in a well- mulched cold frame, mini hoop tunnel, or polytunnel.

While the foliage of most beet varieties is best eaten in the spring, some varieties, like Bull's Blood, offer cols-tolerant foliage for winter salads.