

HORTICULTURE NOTE NO.9

VEGETABLE VARIETY RECOMMENDATIONS

FOR THE HIGHLANDS OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA

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VARIETY RECOMMENDATIONS

There is a wide range of environments in the highlands of Papua New Guinea. Valleys such as the Wahgi and Asaro Valleys are relatively warm, whereas other areas such as Kandep, Tambul and Gembogl are cold, and frosts sometimes occur.

The differences in temperature affect the kinds of vegetables which will grow. Vegetables like tomato like warm areas and will not grow well in cold places. Some varieties of different vegetables prefer either warmer or colder areas. This is important when choosing what kind of vegetable you wish to grow.

One of the best ways of choosing a good variety is to grow a variety which you know has grown well in your area, either in your own garden or in your neighbour's.

This list of recommended varieties is just a few of the varieties which we know will grow in the highlands. For each variety it is indicated whether it is suitable for areas between 1500 and 2000 metres above sea level, and whether it is suitable for areas above 2000 metres above sea level. This is meant only as a rough guide to the varieties which suit the warmer areas or the colder areas of the highlands.

OBTAINING SEEDS

The varieties listed in Table 1 are available in small packets from many of the larger stores and trade stores in the towns. If the variety you want is not available, do not buy another variety unless you want to try it in your area, because it may not be

suitable and may not produce a crop. Several companies do sell seed by mail, but they do require payment before sending seed. It is a good idea to write a letter and ask for the cost first.

Two of the companies which will sell seed by mail are:

Brian Bell and Company Pty. Ltd.
P.O. Box 1228
Boroko, National Capital District

South Pacific Machinery Pty. Ltd.
P.O. Box 1322
Boroko, National Capital District

FURTHER READING

Akus, W.L., Nema, R.K and Bourke, R.M. (1983). Vegetables for institutions in the highlands. *Harvest* 9 (2): 58-62.

Bull, P.B. and Bourke, R.M. (1983). Growing introduced vegetables in the lowlands. 2. Fruit vegetables, corn, legumes, bulb and root vegetables. 3. The green vegetables. *Harvest* 9 (2): 68-79.

Fitzgerald, J. and Bull, P.B. (1983). Producing and saving your own vegetable seeds. *Harvest* 9 (1): 1-4.

Kuk Information Bulletin. No. 1. (in press). Vegetable varieties for the Highlands. Kuk Agricultural Research Station.

Van Greve, J.E. van S. (1983). Safe storage for small quantities of seed. *Harvest* 9 (1): 5-10.

TABLE 1. VEGETABLE VARIETY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE HIGHLANDS

CROP	VARIETY	Suitable 1500 - 2000 m.	Suitable above 2000 m.	SEED COMPANY
1. <u>Fruit vegetables</u>				
Capsicum	California Wonder	yes	no	LL. Y.
	Yolo Wonder	yes	no	LL. T. Y.
Chilli	Long Chayenne	yes	no	LL. Y.
Cucumber	Green Gem	yes	no	LL. Y.
Eggplant	Black Beauty	yes	no	W.
	New York Purple	yes	no	LL.
Pumpkin	Crown Prince	yes	yes	Y.
	Queensland Blue	yes	yes	Y.
Tomato	Fireball	yes	no	LL. Y.
	Grosse Lisse	yes	no	LL. Y.
Watermelon	Sugar Baby	yes	no	LL. Y.
Zucchini (Marrow)	Black Jack	yes	yes	LL.
2. <u>Green vegetables</u>				
Broccoli	Green Duke	yes	yes	Y.
	Green Sprouting Medium	yes	yes	Y.
Brussels Sprout	Jade Cross Fl Hybrid	yes	yes	T.
Cabbage	Early Drumhead	yes	yes	LL.
	Greengold Hybrid	yes	yes	LL. Y.
	K-K Cross	yes	yes	T.
Cauliflower	Deepheart	no	yes	Y.
	Phenominal 4 month Y 404	yes	yes	LL.
	Snowball Early	yes	(?)	W.
Celery	Dewcrisp Green	yes	yes	LL.
Chinese cabbage	Chi Hi Li	yes	yes	LL.
	Pak Choi Kwang Moon	yes	yes	LL. T. Y.
Lettuce	Great Lakes	yes	yes	LL. Y.
Silver Beet	Medium Green	yes	yes	LL. Y.
3. <u>Legumes</u>				
Bean	Blue Lake	yes	yes	LL. Y.
	Contender	yes	yes	LL.
	Redlands Pioneer	yes	yes	Y.
	Shiny Fardenlosa	yes	yes	LL.
Broad Bean	Coles Dwarf Prolific	no	yes	Y.
	Exhibition Long Pod	no	yes	LL.
Pea	Greenfeast	yes	yes	LL. Y.

TABLE 1. (continued)

CROP	VARIETY	Suitable 1500 - 2000 m.	Suitable above 2000 m.	SEED COMPANY
4. <u>Root vegetables</u>				
Beetroot	Derwent Grimson Globe	yes	yes	LL. Y.
	Early Wonder Tall Top	yes	yes	LL. Y.
Carrot	Manchester Table	yes	yes	LL.
	Yates Topweight	yes	yes	LL. Y.
Leek	Musselburgh	yes	yes	LL. Y.
Onion	Texas Early Grano 502	yes	yes	LL.
	Tropic Brown	yes	(?)	LL.
Parsnip	Hollow Crown	yes	yes	Y.
	Yatesnip	yes	yes	Y.
Radish	Stoplight	yes	yes	LL.
Turnip	Purple Top White Globe	yes	yes	LL. Y.
5. <u>Miscellaneous vegetables</u>				
Asparagus	Mary Wasington	yes	yes	LL. T. Y.
Corn	Suwan	yes	yes	(DPI)
Rhubarb	Sydney Crimson	yes	yes	Y.

NOTE: The letters LL., T., Y. and W. after each variety indicate the seed companies which produce the seed. These are:

LL. Yates N.Z. (Longlife seeds)
T. Taki seeds
W. Watkins seeds
Y. Yates Australia

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information and advice on vegetable growing, contact the Area Horticulturist in your region. The addresses for the Area Horticulturists are as follows:

New Guinea Islands Region

Lowlands Agricultural Experiment Station
P.O. Keravat, E.N.B.P.
Tel: 926251 or 926252

Momase Region

Bubia Agriculture Research Centre
P.O. Box 73, LAE
Tel: 424933

Papua Region

D.P.I. Laloki
P.O. Box 417, KONE DOBU
Tel: 281068

Highlands Region

Kuk Agricultural Research Station
P.O. Box 339, MOUNT HAGEN
Tel: 551377

Copies of this Horticulture Note can be obtained from: The Publications Officer, Publications Section, D.P.I., P.O. Box 417, KONE DOBU.