

VEGETABLE PLANT FAMILIES FOR CROP ROTATION.

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Table 1. Common vegetables and their plant family classifications.

PLANT	VEGETABLE
Carrot	carrot, celery, parsley, parsnip
Goosefoot Family	beet, spinach, Swiss chard
Gourd Family	cucumber, muskmelon, pumpkin, summer squash, watermelon, winter
Grass	ornamental corn, popcorn, sweet corn
Mallow Family	okra
Mustard Family	broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower, Chinese cabbage, collard,
Nightshade Family	eggplant, pepper, potato, tomato
Onion	chives, garlic, leek, onion
Pea	bush bean, kidney bean, lima bean,
Sunflower Family	endive, lettuce, sunflower

Crop rotation is used **to reduce damage from insect pests, to limit the development of vegetable diseases, and to manage soil fertility.** For crop rotation to be most effective, DO NOT plant an area with vegetables or cover crops/green manures from the same plant family more than once every three to four years. This length of crop rotation can be difficult to achieve in small gardens, but even changing plant families grown in an area of a garden from year to year is helpful in managing insect pests and diseases.