

Hull Growers' Network

Growers' Directory

2020 Edition

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Download from
www.growersnetwork.org.uk
www.hullfoodpartnership.org.uk

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Funded by



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Introduction

This is a guide for beginner and amateur gardeners in Hull wishing to grow their own fruit, vegetables and herbs. It does not intend to provide very much information about how to grow, but it can point you in the right direction.



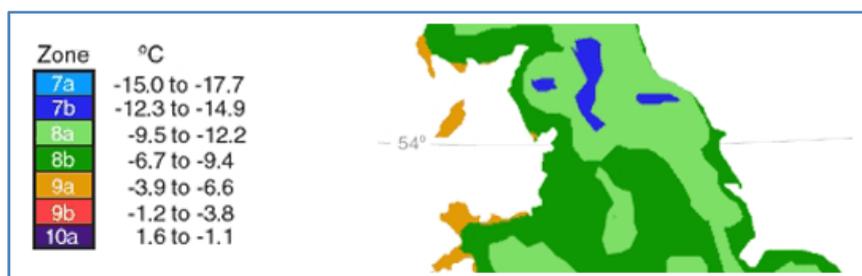
Many practical people prefer to learn by doing, rather than by reading, so here you can find the people and sites in Hull where growing techniques are being practiced. Hull has a fantastic variety of growing sites from orchards to allotments to roof top gardens. There is a huge amount of growing experience in the city and this guide aims to show you where to look locally to find out what you need to know.

As a new gardener, it is easy to be overwhelmed by the amount of information available, especially on the Internet. The information in this guide has been selected with the growing conditions of Hull and East Yorkshire in mind. Being so close to the Humber Estuary means **Hull soil** tends to contain a large proportion of clay and therefore tends to drain poorly, which makes it susceptible to flooding and a good home for slugs, which thrive in damp conditions. Vegetables such as carrots can be difficult to grow in a clay soil. On the upside, clay soil is nutrient rich.

Last frost date A key date in the growing season is the last frost date in the spring. After this time more tender plants can be left outside overnight. The typical last frost date for Hull is the **fourth week of April**. (plantmaps.com) Being close to the sea, Hull has an earlier last-frost date than places further inland. The last frost date in Leeds and Harrogate is the second week of May.



Plant hardiness zones – refers to typical minimum winter temperatures. It's a consideration when growing perennial plants that grow through the winter. Hardy veg such as cabbages, kale, leeks and onion can withstand freezing temperatures for days, whereas half hardy veg like beetroot, carrots and cauliflower can only survive light freezing for a few hours. Tender seedlings may need 'hardening-off' if they come out of the polytunnel early in the season and vegetables such as tomatoes are easily damaged by low temperatures, see above for frost dates.



These climate factors may affect your choice of vegetables and should be taken into careful consideration when seeds are being sown.

Vegetables by difficulty to grow

Vegetable	Notes
Easy to grow	
Beetroot	
Chard	Disease and pest resistant, long season
Courgette	
Kohlrabi	
Lettuce	Can bolt easily if they get thirsty in hot weather
Peas	
Pumpkin	
Radishes	Fast growing, can produce a crop in 4-5 weeks
Runner Beans	
Turnips	Fast growing
Fairly easy to grow	
Broad beans	
Brussels sprouts	Slow growing
Cabbage	Very vulnerable to cabbage white caterpillars in summer, a good winter veg.
Chillies	Requires high temperature to germinate
French beans	
Kale	More difficult in summer, due to pests and disease
Leeks	
Potatoes	
Marrow	
Tomatoes	Easier in a greenhouse
Quite difficult to grow	
Broccoli	Purple sprouting broccoli is easy to grow
Carrots	Requires sandy soil,
Celeriac	Underrated vegetable – but can tend to produce too much leaf
Cucumbers	Greenhouse usually required depending on variety
Onion	
Parsnip	
Peppers	Greenhouse required
Romanesco	
Spinach	
Swede	
Sweetcorn	Requires minimum of 12 plants for wind pollination
Difficult to grow	
Asparagus	Perennial, requires minimum 2 years to first crop
Aubergine	Greenhouse required
Cauliflower	
Celery	
<i>Disagree with the above? Information to add ? email pickjohns@gmail.com</i>	

Gardener's calendar

☞ = Sow indoors ✓ = Sow outdoors

Vegetable		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
 BEETROOT - Sow seeds outdoors 30 cms between rows, thinning plants to 10 cms apart. Pick when small before the beetroot turn woody. You can eat the young leaves in salads!	Sow		☞	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
	Plant			☞	☞	☞							
	Harvest					☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺		
 CARROTS - Make early spring sowings under a cloche. Leave 30 cms between rows, thinning plants to 2 cms apart. Cover plants with fleece to deter carrot fly pests.	Sow			✓	✓	✓			✓				
	Plant												
	Harvest					☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	
 PEPPERS - Sow seeds indoors. Wait until the last frost to plant outside into containers on a sunny patio. To encourage bushy growth, pinch out the growing tips when plants are 20 cms tall.	Sow		☞	☞	☞								
	Plant				☞	☞							
	Harvest							☺	☺	☺	☺		
 COURGETTES - Sow seeds indoors, or in a sunny spot outdoors after the last frost, spacing plants 90 cms apart. Mulch around plants and keep well watered.	Sow			☞	✓	✓	✓						
	Plant				☞	☞	☞						
	Harvest						☺	☺	☺	☺			
 FRENCH BEANS - Sow indoors, planting out after the last frost. Make later sowings outdoors under a cloche. Space plants 15 cms apart. Water regularly.	Sow		☞	☞	☞	✓	✓						
	Plant				☞	☞	☞						
	Harvest						☺	☺	☺	☺	☺		
 LETTUCE - Sow in moist soil 25 cms between rows, thinning plants to 10 cms - Eat the thinnings! Make sowings once a week for continuous supply. Cover with fleece in cold weather.	Sow		☞	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
	Plant				☞	☞	☞	☞	☞	☞	☞		
	Harvest	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺
 PEAS & MANGETOUT - Sow early indoors then outdoors 90 cms between rows with plants 5 cms apart. Support plants with pea sticks. Cover with fleece to deter mice and pigeons.	Sow		☞	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
	Plant			☞	☞	☞							
	Harvest					☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺		
 POTATOES - Choose blight-resistant varieties. Dig plenty of organic matter into the soil. Plant 12 cms deep, 40 cms apart with 60 cms between rows. As plants grow bank up the soil to cover the stems. Water well.	Sow				☞	☞							
	Plant				☞	☞							
	Harvest						☺	☺	☺	☺	☺		
 RADISHES - Sow every 3 weeks outdoors 15 cms between rows, thinning plants to 3 cms for a continuous supply. Pick young before they turn woody.	Sow	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
	Plant												
	Harvest	☺				☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺
 ROCKET - Grow as a cut-and-come-again crop. Sow outdoors 45 cms between rows, thinning plants to 25 cms apart. Keep well watered, mulch around plants to seal in moisture.	Sow				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
	Plant				☞	☞	☞	☞	☞	☞			
	Harvest	☺		☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺
 RUNNER BEANS - Dig lots of organic matter into the soil before sowing. Sow beans indoors, or in a sunny spot outdoors after the last frost. Grow plants up a wigwam of tall canes. Keep well watered.	Sow				☞	✓	✓						
	Plant				☞	☞	☞						
	Harvest							☺	☺	☺	☺		
 SPINACH - Grow as a cut-and-come-again crop. Sow outdoors after the last frost 30 cms between rows, thinning plants to 15 cms. Sow seeds every 3 weeks for a continuous supply. Cover with a fleece in cold weather.	Sow			☞	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		
	Plant				☞	☞	☞						
	Harvest	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺
 SPRING ONIONS - Make sowings outdoors 15 cms between rows every 3 weeks for a continuous supply. No need to thin. Cover with a cloche when the weather turns cold.	Sow			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
	Plant												
	Harvest				☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺		
 SWEETCORN - Sow indoors, planting out after the last frost in a sunny spot. As sweetcorn is wind pollinated, group plants in a block, spaced 45 cms apart. Water regularly, especially during dry spells.	Sow				☞	☞							
	Plant				☞	☞							
	Harvest							☺	☺	☺	☺		
 TOMATOES - Sow indoors, then plant out 45 cms apart in a sunny spot. Tie single-stemmed ('cordon') varieties to a cane for support and pinch out the sideshoots (these appear just above the leaf joint).	Sow			☞	☞								
	Plant				☞	☞							
	Harvest							☺	☺	☺	☺		

GARDENING TIPS

- Successional sowing avoid gluts of crops - Sow in small quantities every few weeks.
- Do not let your plants go to seed if you wish to continue harvesting them.
- Always read the packets and follow the instructions, if different to above.

- Grow disease and pest free varieties to save time.
- Herbs are easy to grow and look great in pots.
- If you don't have a great deal of space, try sowing lettuces in pots, but remember pots will dry out quicker.
- Take time to water your crops, this is the key to success.
- If you don't have time to sow, buy young plants instead.

Recommended tools

Tools and equipment in approximate order of importance, depending on your technique.

As mentioned earlier, Hull soil tends to be heavy clay, so avoid buying tools such as certain hand forks and trowels made from weak metal. They will bend easily and soon snap. You may also struggle with lightweight forks and spades.

Essential	Prices from	Notes
Hand trowel	£3 – £4	Weak versions may bend in the local heavy soil
Gloves	£3	
Secateurs for pruning	£7	Worth paying £12+ if used regularly. Clean and dry after use.
Fork (full sized)	£15	Weak versions may bend in the local heavy soil
Spade	£10	Weak versions may bend in the local heavy soil
Trug	£5	Large flexible container, 40 litres
Important		
String / twine	£2 / 100m	Worth getting bio-degradable
Bamboo canes	£3 (10pack)	6 ft long
Rake	£12	
Pocket knife	£10	Try camping shops e.g. Go Outdoors
Watering can	£4	
Bucket	£2	
Handfork	£4	Weak versions will bend and break in heavy soil
Hoe	£15 - £30	Many different versions
Shovel	£10	
Useful		
Hand hoe	£4	
Spring rake	£12	
Wheelbarrow	£35	
Shears	£12	Clean and dry after use.
Dibber	£2.50	Alternatively use a broom handle or stick
Pocket tool sharpener	£5	Useful for sharpening knives
Gardening wire	£1.50 / 30m	Single strand wire
<i>Comments? email to pickjohns@gmail.com</i>		

Recommended sources of information

Useful information about growing fruit and veg in the UK

Writers

1. [Vegetable Growing Month-by-month: The Down-to-earth Guide That Takes You Through the Vegetable Year](#) by John Harrison
2. [Allotment Month by Month: How to Grow Your Own Fruit and Veg](#) by Alan Buckingham
3. [Veg Patch: River Cottage Handbook No.4](#) by Mark Diacono and Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall
4. [Build a Better Vegetable Garden: 30 DIY Projects to Improve your Harvest](#) by Joyce Russell and Ben Russell
5. [New Vegetable Garden Techniques: Essential skills and projects for tastier, healthier crops](#) by Joyce Russell
6. [Food from Your Garden and Allotment](#) by Reader's Digest
7. [No Dig Organic Home & Garden](#) by Charles Dowding and Stephanie Hafferty
8. [Veg in One Bed: How to Grow an Abundance of Food in One Raised Bed, Month by Month](#) by Huw Richards
9. [The Vegetable & Herb Expert: The world's best-selling book on vegetables & herbs](#) by Dr D G Hessayon
10. [RHS Allotment Handbook & Planner: What to do when to get the most from your plot](#) by The Royal Geographical Society Ltd and The RHS
11. [Build a Better Vegetable Garden: 30 DIY Projects to Improve your Harvest](#) by Joyce Russell and Ben Russell

Online, Youtube

GrowVeg.com - an excellent series of YouTube videos for amateur veg growers based in the UK.

Charles Dowding - an excellent series of YouTube videos based on his No-Dig method

Can you recommend books and videos, channels? email pickjohns@gmail.com

Growing sites and community gardens in Hull



Postcode	Site	Location	Description
HU2 APN	Prospect Centre Rooftop Garden	The Prospect Shopping Centre	Rooftop garden run by volunteers. Activities include, growing vegetables in raised beds and keeping bees.
HU3 1YE	Hull Community Diggers	Behind Kingston Youth Centre, Beverley Road	Local residents have the option of buying a raised bed for food growing purposes.
HU3 2RA	Villa Community Gardens & Thornton Urban Gardeners	Behind the Octagon Centre, Thornton Estate	Created on an overflow parking area at the back of the Octagon. It consists of individual allotments of various sizes plus community growing areas. This will be in the centre of the Thornton Estate linking the community allotments with new housing in Firethorn Close
HU3 2SJ	Giroscope Garden	Coltman Street	Community garden run by Giroscope Housing behind 188 Coltman Street.
HU3 3DF	Constable Community Allotment	Constable Street	Community garden growing fruit and vegetables with local residents. Developed using permaculture principles.
HU3 3ED	Western Library Garden	The Boulevard	Friends of Western Library (Fowl) is working with Hull City Council's library services, Groundwork and Streetwize to help look after the garden, as well as organise events and gardening groups for all ages.
HU4 7AQ	Pickering Road Community Orchard	Off Cranberry Way, Pickering Road	Opened in 2004. Harvest is usually mid August to October with open days throughout. For a donation of £2, depending on the harvest. Regular celebrations at the Orchard include Wassailing in January and May Day.
HU5 2EX	Bakersfield Allotment Project	Off Edgecombe Street, Newland Avenue	On the right as you come through the main gates on Tavistock Street. Set up to provide activity for those referred by the NHS. The project is built on the links between Occupational Therapy, Education, Horticulture and Biodiversity and the importance of working together.
HU5 2TD	Pearson Park Wildlife Garden	Princes Avenue, next to Pearson Park	Run by the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust, the site has herb beds, vegetables and fruit, bees and paths through uncultivated wild areas. Provides children's educational activities, volunteer sessions and a venue for events. http://www.ywt.org.uk/pearson-park-wildlife-garden
HU5 3RN	Thoresby Edible Garden	Off Thoresby Street	Small edible garden set up by At the Edge community group on council owned land growing fruit and vegetables using forest garden principals.
HU6 8AB	The Rainbow Garden	Off Levisham Close, Endike Lane	Established 1997 in a triangle of land surrounded by houses. It has won many awards. There are volunteer sessions and children's activities in the holidays
HU7 4WD	The Bespoke Garden	The Bespoke Centre, Zeal's Garth, Hull	Community garden at the Bespoke centre growing fruit and veg with volunteers.
HU7 5DS	Dales Fitness Centre Field	Snowdon Way, Hull	The field behind the Dales Fitness Centre is being developed as a community resource, with fruit trees and vegetables being planted and allotment plots being allocated. Initial funding was via a community fund run by local councillors.

HU7 5EF	The Pennine Rambler Garden	Pennine Way, Hull,	Church-based community growing area providing fresh vegetables to local residents.
HU9 1AA	Rooted in Hull	St. Peter's Street, Hull	An innovative Urban Agriculture Project currently being developed on St Peter's Street in the centre of Hull. Working in partnership with local business, RiH has taken over a vacant development. It is transforming a long standing derelict site into community space and micro enterprise hub based around food, farming and the environment that will support city residents where it is most needed.
HU9 4EE	East Hull Community Farm	Barham Road,	Community farm selling meat, producing honey and home to a volunteer run vegetable growing patch and small orchard.
	Search Church Gardens		
	Greenfingers	Bodmin Road, Bransholme.	Recently developed small plot with an impressive 2013 harvest of runner beans, squash and rhubarb. Supported by SEARCH under the Living Better for Less project, there are plans to plant fruit trees and increase participation in the vegetable growing.
HU8 9PD	Longhill Linkup	St Margaret's Church, Shannon Road, Longhill,	Growing group run by Estelle which in 2013 had some huge tyres brought on site to grow in and some topsoil delivered. Supported by SEARCH Living Better for Less. Volunteers welcome.
	St Aidans Church	Southcoates Avenue,	Volunteers at St Aidan's have been keen to develop the space behind their hall that is begging to become a Garden of Eden. Work started on clearing the site in 2013 and the project is supported by the SEARCH Living Better for Less initiative.
	St Hilda's Church	Greatfield, Hull	St Hilda's was one of the first growing spaces supported by SEARCH Living Better for Less and run along with the gardening club at the church. The site now has a number of fruit trees, potatoes and a bed for other vegetables.
HU9 2TA	St John's Church & Community Centre Garden	Rosemead St,	Another project supported by SEARCH under Living Better for Less. Work was started on the site by volunteers in June 2013.
HU3	St Mathews/Hull Youth for Christ Allotment	Boulevard,	A derelict site cleared by enthusiastic volunteers in spring 2013 and now well on the way to becoming a thriving garden with help from SEARCH Living Better for Less. Now named the 'Hope Grows' group, work has included a large mural, sandpit and insect housing on the site.
HU6 9BX	St Michaels Youth Project Allotment	Orchard Park Road,	Allotment with herb garden, fruit trees, rhubarb, spinach, potatoes and strawberries, created and maintained by teenagers with support from SEARCH under the Living Better for Less project. Increasing the number of fruit trees to create a small orchard on half the plot will make it more manageable.
	St Stephens Neighbourhood Centre	Greatfield,	SEARCH is working with Sister Anna and Josie to do some growing within the church grounds, starting with potatoes and being further developed with help from the Living Better for Less project.
	Outside of Hull		
HU17 9FS	Frith Farm	Molescroft Beverley	A community supported agriculture scheme, outside the city. The farm provides fresh locally grown vegetables to residents and shops in Hull.

Hull City Council Allotments

	Site	Post Code	Plots
1	Albert Cottage (Kenilworth	HU3 5RT	97
2	Bilton Grove	HU9 5YB	44
3	Bude Road	HU7 4QY	74
4	Calvert Road	HU5 5DF	67
5	Clough Road		94
6	County Road		111
7	Edgecumbe Street	HU5 2EU	35
8	Field Street	HU9 1HN	4
9	Gipsyville		73
10	Lamorna Avenue	HU8 8HT	80
11	Marfleet Lane		66
12	National Avenue		97
13	Newland Avenue		245
14	Noddle Hill Way	HU7 4NQ	65
15	Oak Road		68
16	Perth Street		98
17	Pickering Road		109
18	Portobello Street		44
19	Richmond Street	HU5 3JY	36
20	Sutton / Leads Road		81
21	Wansbeck Road	HU8 9SZ	37

Hull City Council owns over 1,800 allotments across 22 allotment sites around the city. Although some sites still have very long waiting lists we also now have sites with vacancies or short waiting lists. Please enquire on a site by site basis for waiting list details.

For those sites with waiting lists - customers can request to go on the waiting list, however timescales cannot be given for when plots may become available.

After submitting a request you will be added automatically and you will only receive contact from the Allotment Office when they have progressed to the top of the list and a plot has become available.

All sites are fenced and most have access to water.

Charges

- A statutory plot of 250 metre squared costs £63.40 per year payable in April of each year. Concessions are available at £49.50
- there is an £8 charge for water per plot per year (this is added to the yearly bill)
- a refundable deposit of £20 is payable for a key to access the site

Who can apply and how

Anyone can apply for an allotment. The person signing the tenancy agreement must be over 18 and reside within Hull.

Due to the increasing popularity of allotment gardening, all sites in Hull currently have waiting lists. To register your interest and have your name added to a waiting list, please complete the form below.

Please use the online forms to manage your Allotment, visit:

<http://www.hull.gov.uk/arts-and-leisure/leisure/allotments>

<<< Can you add / update any allotment address details here? if so, please email pickjohns@gmail.com

2020 Calendar of events

Date	Event	Location	More info
Sun 12 Jan 2020	Wassail	Pickering Road Community Orchard	hullorchard.co.uk
Sat 7 March 2020	Hull Seed Swap	Jubilee Central, King Edward Street	hullfoodpartnership.org.uk/seedswap
Sat 25 April 2020	The Big Dig / Good To Grow		hullfoodpartnership.org.uk/bigdig
Mon 4 May 2020	May Day	Pickering Road Community Orchard	hullorchard.co.uk
Sundays Aug to Oct	Apple Harvest	Pickering Road Community Orchard	hullorchard.co.uk
<i>Want to add your events for 2021? please - email pickjohns@gmail.com</i>			