

# Gardening by the Moon

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## How the astrological signs of the zodiac influence gardening by the Moon

The Moon moves through the signs of the Zodiac in the heavens every couple of days. Different signs are associated with an element of earth, air, fire or water. When the Moon is in a water sign it is the most fertile time for planting. Different types of plants have favorite signs too, such as leafy plants prefer the water signs. **The fertile water signs are Cancer, Pisces, and Scorpio, and are best for planting above ground, leafy annuals.**

## Planting by the Signs

The Earth signs, Taurus, Virgo and Capricorn, are also very fertile and good for planting. **The root is the part of the plant associated with earth signs, so it is especially good for planting root crops,** or for transplanting to encourage root development.

Air signs work well for some plants, but are generally barren and dry. Libra is an exception to that rule, and is semi-fertile and good for blooming flowers and herbs. Flowers are the part of the plant associated with air signs. Melons like Gemini, and onions respond well in Aquarius. **When the Moon is in an air sign it is a good time to harvest and cultivate.**

The fire signs of Aries, Leo and Sagittarius are very barren and dry, but may be used for crops grown for their seed. Because it is barren, Leo is a good sign for weeding and cultivation, so seeds won't sprout. It is also good to **harvest during a fire sign.**

Some plants have better results with a certain sign or element. [See this chart for specifics.](#)

Other garden chores have preferences for the sign also, such as pruning in Scorpio, weeding in Leo. Harvesting in the dry air and fire signs in the fourth quarter helps preserve fruit and vegetables for storage.

In between signs the Moon is void of course, which is a good time to take a break and enjoy the fruits (and vegetables!) of your labors!

For more information about how lunar planting works, including research and references, continue on to the [next page](#), or skip to the topic of your choice.

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**Aries- A fire sign. Barren and dry.** Harvest root and fruit for storage. Cultivate, destroy weeds and pests.



**Taurus- An earth sign. Productive and moist.** Second best for planting and transplanting. Good for root crops and potatoes, especially when hardness is important. Also a good sign for leafy vegetables such as lettuce, cabbage and spinach.



**Gemini- An air sign. Barren and dry.** Harvest root and fruit for storage. Cultivate, destroy weeds and pests. Melon seeds respond well in this sign.



**Cancer- A water sign. Very fruitful and moist.** The best sign for all planting and transplanting. Also good for grafting, and irrigation.



**Leo- A fire sign. Very barren and dry.** Cultivate, harvest root and fruit for storage. An excellent time to destroy weeds and pests in the fourth quarter.



**Virgo- An earth sign. Barren and moist.** Some flowers and vines are favored by it. Cultivate and destroy weeds and pests.



**Libra- An air signs. Semi-fruitful and moist.** Best sign for planting beautiful and fragrant flowers, vines and herbs. Good for planting pulpy stems like kohlrabi, and root crops.



**Scorpio- A water sign. Very fruitful and moist.** Best planting sign for sturdy plants and vines. Tomatoes like to be transplanted in Scorpio, and it is a good sign for corn and squash. Graft or prune in the third and fourth quarter to retard growth and promote better fruit. A good sign for irrigation and transplanting.



**Sagittarius- A fire sign. Barren and dry.** Harvest roots and onions for storage, and plant onion sets and fruit trees. A good sign in which to cultivate the soil.



**Capricorn- An earth sign. Productive and dry.** Good for planting potatoes and other root crops, and for encouraging strong hardy growth. Good for grafting, and pruning to promote healing, and applying organic fertilizer.



**Aquarius- An air sign. Barren and dry.** Harvest root and fruit for storage. Cultivate, destroy weeds and pests. Good for planting onion sets.



**Pisces- A water sign. Very productive and moist.** Second best sign for planting and transplanting. Especially good for root growth and irrigation.

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Note: The astrological signs used for planting should not be confused with the astronomical constellations that the Moon travels through.

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