

Specialty Crop Production in High tunnels

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Specialty Crops

- Generally not locally available
- High economic return
- Highly perishable - will not ship long distance
- Require some nutritional information and recipes at sales point for consumer acceptance and use.

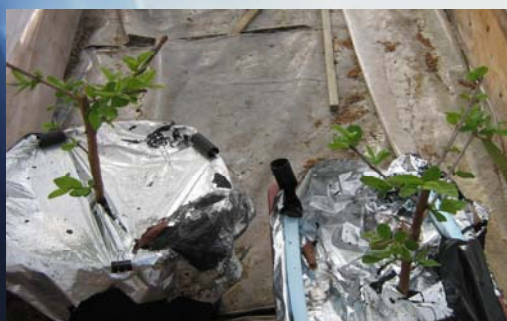
Specialty Crop Examples Goji Fruit



Papaya - from seed to fruit maturity - 24 months



Guava



Louffa Sponge



Ginger



Ginger production in soilless media



Ginger production basics

- Seed piece planted in 3 gal containers with soilless media.
- Pots placed in automated hydroponic tank
- Fertilizer added to water in tank - EC level measured weekly
- Harvested crop after 4 months growth
- Yield - 80 lbs per 40 square feet.
- Retail sales at \$10.00/lb.



3 gal.ginger pots in 2" of water in bottom of bed



Metallized silver/black mulch covering beds



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Eggplant

- Oriental eggplants are native to tropical Asia and are very popular in Japan, China, India, Thailand and the Philippines. There are many varieties; light or dark purple, brown or green in skin color; round and slender in shape. Eggplants are used in many ways in the Orient; Tempura and pickling by Japanese, stir-fry and boiling by Chinese, stuffing and baking by Indian and Vietnamese. Oriental eggplants are sweet and delicious, that are cooked without peeling or salting.

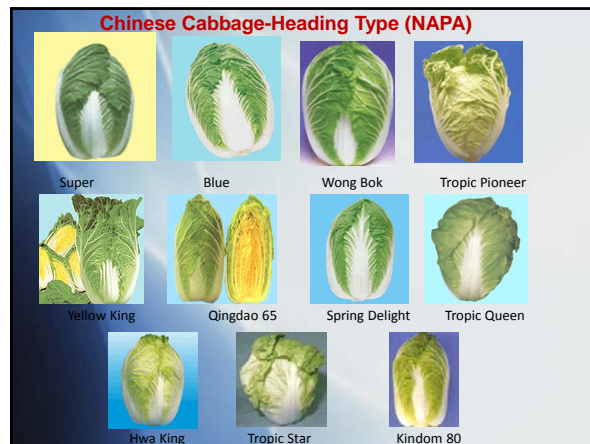


Bitter Melon

- Bitter Gourd is one of the most popular vegetables in China, Taiwan, Vietnam, Thailand, India and the Philippines. Bitter Gourd, also called Bitter Melon, has an acquired taste. The plant is grown mainly for the immature fruits although the young leaves and tips are edible. Bitter Melon seed has hard skin and needs warm/moist soil conditions during germination.

Bitter Melon

- It may fail or take a long time to germinate if the soil temperature is too low. Bitter Melon is a long-season, high-humidity and warm-climate vine plant and best when grown on a trellis system. Does best on black plastic mulch. Bitter Gourd is believed to have high medicinal value for various disorders, especially for people with diabetes.

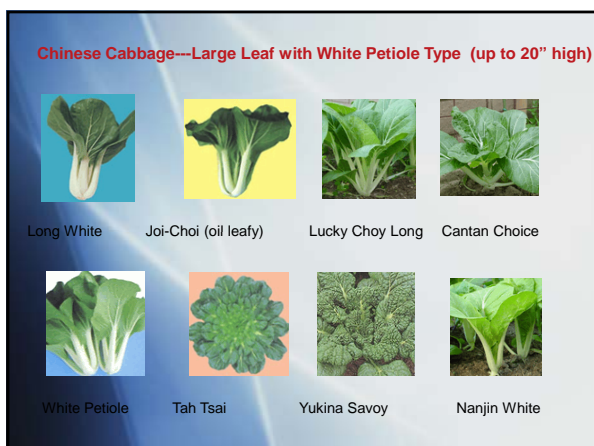


Napa Chinese Cabbage

- NAPA Cabbage is the most popular family of Chinese cabbages seen in the supermarkets on the West and Orient. The plant forms a head with leaves and petioles when matured. This heading vegetable is very tender and delicious. There are many varieties developed for various climates and areas. There are three major population of them in China: **Beijing White, Tianjin White and Shandong White**
- **NAPA Cabbage, Hybrid Super** Slow bolting, equally good for spring and fall crops.
- **NAPA Cabbage, Hybrid Blues** Excellent quality. Extra slow bolting.
- **NAPA Cabbage, Wong Bok** Large head. Best for fall/winter crop.
- **NAPA Chinese Cabbage, Hybrid Tropic Pioneer** Excellent variety for subtropical crops.

Chinese Cabbage Varieties

- **NAPA Cabbage, Hybrid Yellow King** Attractive head with bright yellow inner leaves.
- **NAPA Cabbage, Hybrid Qingdao 65** Medium size. Tender and delicious leaves.
- **NAPA Cabbage, Hybrid Spring Delight** Good for spring/summer crop. Dark green outer leaves and yellow inner leaves.
- **NAPA, Hybrid Tropic Queen** Resistant to heat. Good for subtropical climates.
- **NAPA Cabbage, Hybrid Hwa King WR60** Large head. Early spring and fall/winter crops.
- **NAPA Chinese Cabbage, Hybrid Tropic Star** Compact head with tender leaves.
- **NAPA Cabbage, Hybrid Kingdom 80** Large size type. Slow bolting plant.



Pak Choy

- Chinese Cabbages of this group have gloss, dark green leaves with long, large white petioles. They are generally called Full Size White Pak Choy in the markets. These varieties grow best in mild and slightly cold climates, suitable for fall crops. They may go into the pre-matured flowering in heat conditions. Pak Choy is used extensively in Cantonese cooking. Many varieties can grow up to 20 inches high.

Pak Choy Varieties

- **Pak Choy, Long White Petiole** Standard version of Pak Choi. Extensively used in Chinese cooking.
- **Pak Choy, Hybrid Joi-Choi** Very productive. High quality vegetable.
- **Pak Choy, Hybrid Lucky Choy** Medium size Pak Choy. Excellent quality and tasty.
- **Pak Choy, Canton Choice** Medium tall type Chinese Pakchoy. Very tender and tasty vegetable.
- **Pak Choy, Short White Petiole** Resistant to heat, suitable for subtropical climates.
- **Pak Tsai (Tatsoi)** Harvest young leaves anytime. Easy to grow.
- **Chinese Cabbage, Yukina Savoy** Thick and savored leaves in dark green color.
- **Pak Choy, Nanjing Easy** Easy to grow. Tender leaves and petioles.

Chinese Cabbage---Small Chinese Cabbage - Green Petiole Type

			
Long Green Petiole	Summer Boy	Green Boy	Green Baby
			
Short Green Petiole	All Season	Mei-Qing-Choi**	Tropic Wonder

Green Baby Pak Choy

- Green Baby Pak Choy is one of the most popular vegetables grown and sold in the supermarkets on the West Coast and Orient. This vegetable is also called Shanghai Bok Choy, Ching-Chiang Choy or Ching-Kang Choy in Asia. This fast-growing vegetable has tender green leaves and crispy green petioles. Green Baby Bok Choy has become the most used vegetables in various Oriental dishes due to its excellent flavor, texture and size. There are many varieties developed recently to meet the increasing demands for home garden and commercial growers.








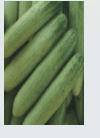
Green Baby Pak Choy

- **Ching-Chiang Cabbage, Long Green Petiole** Grow well in mild and warm climates.
- **Ching-Chiang Cabbage, Hybrid Summer Boy** Resistant to heat. Easy to grow.
- **Ching-Chiang Cabbage, Hybrid Green Boy** Easy to grow. Suitable for growing from spring to fall.
- **Ching-Chiang Cabbage, Hybrid Green Baby** Mini-size vegetable. Excellent variety for home gardening and fresh markets.
- **Ching-Chiang Cabbage, Short Green Petiole** Easy to grow in mild climates all year round.
- **Ching-Chiang Cabbage, Hybrid All Seasons** High adaptability to various climates. Upright compact plants.
- **Ching-Chiang Cabbage, Hybrid Mei-Qing-Choi** Widely grown hybrid version. Top quality vegetable.
- **Ching-Chiang Cabbage, Hybrid Tropic Wonder** Suitable for growing in mild and warm climates.

Oriental Cucumber

- Most Oriental cucumbers are very narrow and long, growing up to 18 inches long but remaining less than 2 inches in diameter. The seed cavity is very small and the flesh is thick, crisp and delicious. Cucumbers are picked when Immature and used for pickling and salad. Usually they are burpless

Oriental cucumbers

			
Japanese Type also popular in Chinese Korean			
			
Korean Type	Pickling and others		



Oriental Crop Production

- Can oriental vegetable grow here in the Northeast?
Yes, many oriental vegetables can be grown in Northeast
- What kind of culture requirements are needed?
Well, a soil test is a must and nutrient requirement follows "Grower Guide" for listed vegetable, similar crops, or mixed vegetable.
- Where can I get seeds?
Johnny's, Evergreen Seeds, Known-You, Territorial seeds, etc

Any Questions?




Vegetable gift box