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OSU EXTENSION NEWS

# Dig in and avoid garden mistakes



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As we continue to move toward spring, vegetable garden producers have already started planting this year's crop. Gardeners started planting cool-season crops in February and warm season crops will soon follow. No matter the type of garden, all gardeners should strive to avoid a few common garden mistakes.

Avoid the Following Mistakes:

- Planting too closely, which prevents walking or working in the garden.
- Placing fertilizer directly in contact with plant roots or seeds.

- Cultivating too deeply, resulting in injury to plant roots.
- Depending on varieties not recommended for your area; however, do try new releases.
- Watering frequently or excessively so that the soil is always wet and soggy.
- Allowing weeds to grow large before elimination.
- Applying chemicals or pesticides in a haphazard manner, without reading label directions or proper mixing.
- Storing leftover diluted chemicals.

Planting dates for warm season crops are April 10th through the middle of June. Warm season crops include; beans, cantaloupe, okra, pepper, squash, sweet corn, tomato and watermelon, just to name a few. For a complete list of cool and warm season planting dates, check out OSU Extension Fact Sheet HLA-6004 Oklahoma Garden Planning Guide, available at your local extension office.