

## Real Fields on Real Farms: Sample Four- and Five-Year Vegetable Crop Rotations

		<b>Calvert's Gift Farm</b> Jack Gurley, Md.	<b>Even Star Organic Farm</b> Brett Grohsgal, Md.	<b>Four Winds Farm</b> Polly & Jay Armour, N.Y.
Y1	Winter	Garlic	Crimson Clover	Oats
	Spring	Winter Squash	Tomatoes <b>OR</b> Peppers	Potatoes <b>OR</b> Tomatoes <sup>a</sup>
	Summer			
	Fall			
Y2	Winter	Spinach	Red Clover	Straw mulch   Garlic (in alternate beds) <sup>b</sup>
	Spring		Red Clover	
	Summer	Soybeans	Okra – Flowers – Basil	Winter Squash (in alternate beds)   Straw mulch
	Fall	Oats	Winter Brassicas   Vetch   Lettuce (strip crop)	
Y3	Winter	Fava Beans	Vetch	Straw mulch
	Spring	Brassicas	Cucurbits	Beans
	Summer			
	Fall	Vetch	Crimson Clover   Lettuce (strip crop)   Winter Brassicas	Compost
Y4	Winter	Tomatoes	Red Clover	Direct-Seeded Quick Crops / Small-Seeded Greens / Radishes
	Spring			
	Summer	Garlic	Red Clover   Winter Brassicas   Lettuce (strip crop)	Cucumbers (mulched with straw)   Lettuce
	Fall	Return to Year One	Return to Year One	Return to Year One
Winter				
Spring				
Summer				
Y5	Winter	Return to Year One	Return to Year One	Return to Year One
	Spring			
	Summer			
	Fall			

- KEY**
- "Fallow" indicates a deliberate period of bare soil, often with frequent cultivation to kill weeds.
  - Split boxes indicate strip crops or split beds.
  - Intercrops with crops from more than one family are represented by a dark gray background.
  - Cash crops are indicated by black text, cover crops and fallows by white text.

*The boxes below show the color codes for plant families in the rotation diagrams.*

- <sup>a</sup> This rotation switches between potatoes and tomatoes in alternate cycles.
- <sup>b</sup> This rotation is designed around alternate beds.

Grasses – Poaceae	Legumes – Fabaceae	Brassicas – Brassicaceae	Nightshades – Solanaceae	Cucurbits – Cucurbitaceae	Beets, spinach – Chenopodiaceae	Mulch	Cash Crop
Lettuce – Asteraceae	Alliums – Liliaceae	Carrot – Apiaceae	Miscellaneous	Fallow	Grass-legume mix	Intercrop	Cover Crop

## Real Fields on Real Farms: Sample Four- and Five-Year Vegetable Crop Rotations (*continued*)

		<b>Golden Russet Farm</b> Will Stevens, Vt.	<b>Kretschmann Farm</b> Don Kretschmann, Pa.	<b>Nesenkeag Farm</b> Eero Ruuttila, N.H.	
Y1	Winter	Wheat <b>OR</b> Oats	Alfalfa	Rye – Vetch	
	Spring	Brassicas	Tomatoes	Winter Squash	
	Summer				
	Fall		Rye – Vetch	Rye – Vetch	
Y2	Winter	Oats	Lettuce (triple crop)	Potatoes	
	Spring	Potatoes			Spinach
	Summer		Rye – Vetch	Rye – Vetch	
	Fall				Rye – Vetch
Y3	Winter	Wheat (overseed)	Beets	Sudangrass	
	Spring	Winter Squash Summer Vetch	Late Brassicas with Underseeded Rye <b>OR</b> Oats		
	Summer			Oats – Field Peas	
	Fall			Oats – Field Peas	
Y4	Winter	Wheat	Alfalfa	Lettuce	Spinach / Chard / Beet Greens
	Spring	Sweet Corn / Summer “Smalls” <sup>c</sup>		Arugula / Mustard / Brassicas	Lettuce
	Summer			Rye – Vetch	
	Fall			Rye – Vetch	
Y5	Winter	Oats (and compost)	Alfalfa	Return to Year One	
	Spring	Spring “Smalls” <sup>c</sup>			
	Summer	Summer Fallow			
	Fall	Wheat <b>OR</b> Oats			

- KEY**
- “Fallow” indicates a deliberate period of bare soil, often with frequent cultivation to kill weeds.
  - Split boxes indicate strip crops or split beds.
  - Intercrops with crops from more than one family are represented by a dark gray background.
  - Cash crops are indicated by black text, cover crops and fallows by white text.

<sup>c</sup> “Smalls” indicates any crop grown in small quantities, such as scallions, green beans, and other “oddballs.”

**The boxes below show the color codes for plant families in the rotation diagrams.**

Grasses – Poaceae	Legumes – Fabaceae	Brassicas – Brassicaceae	Nightshades– Solanaceae	Cucurbits – Cucurbitaceae	Beets, spinach – Chenopodiaceae	Mulch	Cash Crop
Lettuce – Asteraceae	Alliums – Liliaceae	Carrot– Apiaceae	Miscellaneous	Fallow	Grass-legume mix	Intercrop	Cover Crop

## Real Fields on Real Farms: Sample Four- and Five-Year Vegetable Crop Rotations (*continued*)

		<b>One Straw Farm</b> Drew Norman, Md.	<b>Pleasant Valley Farm</b> Paul & Sandy Arnold, N.Y.	<b>Riverbank Farm</b> Davida Blyn, Conn.
Y1	Winter	Orchardgrass – Alfalfa Hay	Mulch	Hay
	Spring		Lettuce	
	Summer	Plow-down – Fallow	Beans	Buckwheat
	Fall	Crimson Clover – Vetch	Radish	Oats – Field Peas
Y2	Winter	Tomatoes	Winter Rye	
	Spring		Carrots	
	Summer	Rye – Vetch	Beans      Turnips	Carrots      Beets      Lettuce
	Fall		Rye	Rye
Y3	Winter	Plow-down – Fallow	Lettuce	Tomato / Pepper / Eggplant on plastic <b>OR</b> Cucumber/ Zucchini / Melon on plastic
	Spring	Brassicas	Winter Squash (with hay mulch)	
	Summer		Mulch	Beets
	Fall	Spinach      Arugula and Radish	Radishes	Brassica Greens      Lettuce
Y4	Winter	Lettuce	Winter Rye	Garlic      Rye
	Spring		Beets	
	Summer	Buckwheat	Tomatoes (with hay mulch)	Lettuce      Flowers
	Fall	Summer squash	Mulch	Rye
Y5	Winter	Hay	Tomatoes (with hay mulch)	Rye
	Spring			
	Summer	Mulch		
	Fall	Hay		

- KEY**
- “Fallow” indicates a deliberate period of bare soil, often with frequent cultivation to kill weeds.
  - Split boxes indicate strip crops or split beds.
  - Intercrops with crops from more than one family are represented by a dark gray background.
  - Cash crops are indicated by black text, cover crops and fallows by white text.

<sup>d</sup> Harvest of brassica and fall cool-season crops extends into winter. Clovers may be interseeded at the last cultivation.

*The boxes below show the color codes for plant families in the rotation diagrams.*

Grasses – Poaceae	Legumes – Fabaceae	Brassicas – Brassicaceae	Nightshades– Solanaceae	Cucurbits – Cucurbitaceae	Beets, spinach – Chenopodiaceae	Mulch	Cash Crop
Lettuce – Asteraceae	Alliums – Liliaceae	Carrot– Apiaceae	Miscellaneous	Fallow	Grass-legume mix	Intercrop	Cover Crop

## Real Fields on Real Farms: Sample Four- and Five-Year Vegetable Crop Rotations (*continued*)

		<b>Roxbury Farm</b> Jean-Paul Courtens, N.Y.	<b>Village Acres Farm</b> Roy Brubaker, Pa.	<b>Wood Prairie Farm</b> Jim Gerritsen, Me.
Y1	Winter	Clover	Rye	Plow-down – Fallow
	Spring			
	Summer	Fallow – July		
	Fall	Oats – Field Peas	Strawberries 1st harvest	Seed Potatoes
Y2	Winter	White Clover between crop rows		Fallow
	Spring	Pepper / Eggplant on plastic		
	Summer			Wheat <b>OR</b> Oats (undersown with clover)
	Fall	Interseeded Rye	Strawberries 2nd harvest <sup>e</sup>	Clover
Y3	Winter			
	Spring	Broccoli		
	Summer		Buckwheat	
	Fall			
Y4	Winter	Fallow	Wheat (frost seed grass and clover into wheat in spring)	
	Spring			
	Summer	Sweet Corn (overseeded with clover)		Spring Mustard Plow-down
	Fall			Buckwheat Plow-down
Y5	Winter		Forage Millet and Soybeans <b>OR</b> Grass-Clover Mix grazed by poultry	
	Spring	Clover (mowed two or three times)		
	Summer			
	Fall		Rye	Return to Year One

- KEY**
- “Fallow” indicates a deliberate period of bare soil, often with frequent cultivation to kill weeds.
  - Split boxes indicate strip crops or split beds.
  - Intercrops with crops from more than one family are represented by a dark gray background.
  - Cash crops are indicated by black text, cover crops and fallows by white text.

<sup>e</sup> This strawberry rotation is followed by cycling into a vegetable rotation sequence.

**The boxes below show the color codes for plant families in the rotation diagrams.**

Grasses – Poaceae	Legumes – Fabaceae	Brassicas – Brassicaceae	Nightshades– Solanaceae	Cucurbits – Cucurbitaceae	Beets, spinach – Chenopodiaceae	Mulch	Cash Crop
Lettuce – Asteraceae	Alliums – Liliaceae	Carrot– Apiaceae	Miscellaneous	Fallow	Grass-legume mix	Intercrop	Cover Crop

## Real Fields on Real Farms: Sample Four- and Five-Year Vegetable Crop Rotations (*continued*)

		<b>Beech Grove Farm</b> Anne and Eric Nordell, Pa.			
Y1	Winter	Fallow			
	Spring	Oats			
	Summer	Cultivated Fallow			
	Fall	Field Peas			
Y2	Winter	Onion			
	Spring				
	Summer				
	Fall	Rye			
Y3	Winter	Cultivated Fallow			
	Spring				
	Summer				
	Fall	Rye – Vetch			
Y4	Winter	Rye – Vetch			
	Spring				
	Summer	Lettuce	Carrot	Spinach	
	Fall	Lettuce	Carrot	Spinach	Rye (interseeded)
Y5	Winter	Return to Year One			
	Spring				
	Summer				
	Fall				

- KEY**
- “Fallow” indicates a deliberate period of bare soil, often with frequent cultivation to kill weeds.
  - Split boxes indicate strip crops or split beds.
  - Intercrops with crops from more than one family are represented by a dark gray background.
  - Cash crops are indicated by black text, cover crops and fallows by white text.

*The boxes below show the color codes for plant families in the rotation diagrams.*

Grasses – Poaceae	Legumes – Fabaceae	Brassicas – Brassicaceae	Nightshades– Solanaceae	Cucurbits – Cucurbitaceae	Beets, spinach – Chenopodiaceae	Mulch	Cash Crop
Lettuce – Asteraceae	Alliums – Liliaceae	Carrot– Apiaceae	Miscellaneous	Fallow	Grass-legume mix	Intercrop	Cover Crop

## Real Fields on Real Farms: Sample Four- and Five-Year Grain Crop Rotations

		<b>Martens Farm</b> Klaas & Mary-H Martens, NY	<b>Myer Farm</b> John Myer, NY	<b>Fair Hills Farm</b> Ed Fry, MD	
Y1	Winter	Red clover (plowdown)		Rye (silage)	
	Spring				
	Summer	Corn		Corn (grain) Rye (overseeded)	
	Fall				
Y2	Winter	Fallow		Rye (silage)	
	Spring				
	Summer	Soybean	Corn	Corn (silage)	
	Fall				
Y3	Winter	Winter wheat	Fallow	Rye (silage)	
	Spring	Winter wheat Red clover (overseeded)			
	Summer	Red clover	Soybean	Corn (silage)	
	Fall				
Y4	Winter	Return to Year One	Winter wheat	Fallow	
	Spring				
	Summer		Winter wheat Red clover (overseeded)		Alfalfa
	Fall				
Y5	Winter	Return to Year One	Red clover		
	Spring				
	Summer				
	Fall				

- KEY**
- “Fallow” indicates a deliberate period of bare soil, often with frequent cultivation to kill weeds.
  - Split boxes indicate strip crops or split beds.
  - Intercrops with crops from more than one family are represented by a dark gray background.
  - Cash crops are indicated by black text, cover crops and fallows by white text.

*The boxes below show the color codes for plant families in the rotation diagrams.*

Grasses – Poaceae	Legumes – Fabaceae	Brassicas – Brassicaceae	Nightshades– Solanaceae	Cucurbits – Cucurbitaceae	Beets, spinach – Chenopodiaceae	Mulch	Cash Crop
Lettuce – Asteraceae	Alliums – Liliaceae	Carrot– Apiaceae	Miscellaneous	Fallow	Grass-legume mix	Intercrop	Cover Crop