



THE AMATEUR

GARDENER

by Vanda Lawrence

Some time ago I mentioned that I had been told about the 'Calendrier Lunaire' ergo 'gardening by the moon'. I had logged on to the website (www.calendrier-lunaire.fr) and was interested to see what day it was recommended to do different gardening tasks during each month of the year.

At the end of 2015 I was lucky enough to come across the 2016 edition, which I bought and have been studying. It is very complicated, and not only because it is written in French! This calendar covers everything, and I mean everything - there is even a section showing good and bad dates to cut or colour your hair, cut your fingernails, even good and bad dates for having your teeth descaled!! Whatever next?

I've also mentioned before about crop rotation, as well as good and bad neighbours in the vegetable plot, so, as this is the time to be sowing and planting our vegetables and herbs it's the ideal time to remind ourselves - the chart to the right might help.

It's also worth noting that many plants repel insects, nematodes, slugs and other pests which is possibly why they are considered to be good neighbours.

Plant	Pests
Basil	Mosquitoes, carrot fly, asparagus beetle, whitefly
Borage	Cabbage worms, tomato hornworm
Catnip	Ants, aphids, Japanese beetle, cabbage looper, cockroaches
Chamomile	Flying insects
Chives	Carrot fly, Japanese beetle, aphids
Citronella	Insects, mosquitoes
Coriander	Aphids, spider mites, Colorado potato beetle
Dill	Aphids, spider mites, cabbage looper, tomato hornworm
Fennel	Aphids, slugs, snails
French marigold	Whitefly
Lantana	Mosquitoes
Lavender	Moths, mosquitoes
Leek and Lettuce	Carrot fly
Lemon Balm & Lemon Thyme	Mosquitoes
Narcissus	Moles
Nasturtiums	Whitefly, aphids, beetles, cabbage looper
Onion	Rabbits, cabbage looper
Radish	Cabbage maggot, cucumber beetle
Rosemary	Cabbage looper, carrot fly, slugs, snails
Thyme	Cabbage looper, cabbage maggot, white fly
Tomato	Asparagus beetle

Vegetable	Good neighbour	Bad neighbour
Artichoke	Broad bean	-
Asparagus	Kidney bean, leek, tomato, parsley	-
Aubergine	Haricot bean	-
Beetroot	Dill, kohlrabi, kidney bean, onion	Spinach
Broad bean	Dill, artichoke, sweet corn	Garlic, shallot, onion
Cabbage	Beetroot, celery, cress, spinach, kidney bean, lettuce, mint, potato, rosemary, sage	Fennel, onion, tomato, strawberry
Carrot	Garlic, dill, cabbage, chives, endive, lettuce, onion, leek, pea, radish, tomato	Mint
Celery	Cabbage, spinach, kidney bean, leek, pea, tomato	-
Chard	-	Leek
Chervil	-	Radish
Chives	Carrot, cucumber	-
Cucumber	Dill, basil, celery, spinach, fennel, kidney bean, lettuce sweet corn, onion, pea	Potato, radish, horseradish, tomato
Fennel	Cucumber, endive, lettuce	Kohlrabi, coriander, shallot, haricot bean, pea, tomato
Garlic	Beetroot, carrot, lettuce, leek, tomato, strawberry	Cabbage, broad bean, haricot bean, pea
Haricot bean	Aubergine, beetroot, carrot, celery, cabbage, cucumber, spinach, sweetcorn, potato, strawberry	Garlic, shallot, fennel, onion, leek, pea, tomato
Kohlrabi	Beetroot, spinach, leek, pea, radish, tomato, strawberry	Fennel, haricot bean, tomato
Leek	Carrot, celery, spinach, lettuce, onion, tomato, strawberry	-
Lettuce	Dill, carrot, cauliflower, cucumber, squash, leek, radish, strawberry	Celery, parsley
Melon	-	Cucumber, squash
Onion	Garlic, dill, beetroot, carrot, cucumber, lettuce, tomato, parsnip, strawberry	Cabbage, broad bean, haricot bean, leek, pea
Parsley	Asparagus, tomato	Lettuce
Parsnip	Onion	-
Pea	Carrot, celery, kohlrabi, cucumber, spinach, haricot bean, sweet corn, turnip, potato, radish	Garlic, shallot, onion, leek
Potato	Garlic cauliflower, cabbage, broad bean, haricot bean, sweet corn, pea, horseradish	Carrot, squash, onion, tomato
Pumpkin (squash)	Sweet corn, lettuce	Cucumber, potato
Radish	Carrot, spinach, haricot bean, lettuce, pea, tomato, strawberry	Chervil, hyssop
Shallot	Beetroot, lettuce, strawberry	Broad bean, haricot bean, pea
Spinach	Beetroot, cabbage, haricot bean, lettuce, tomato, pea, strawberry	-
Squash (courgette, pumpkin etc)	Sweet corn, lettuce	Cucumber, potato
Strawberry	Spinach, kidney bean, lettuce, thyme, tomato	Cabbage
Sweet corn	Cucumber, squash, broad bean, leek, pea, potato	-
Tomato	Garlic, asparagus, basil, carrot, celery, cress, spinach, onion, parsnip, parsley, leek	Beetroot, cucumber, gherkin, fennel, haricot bean, potato
Turnip	Pea, mint, rosemary	-

I hope this proves to be useful, it's certainly something to think about...
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