

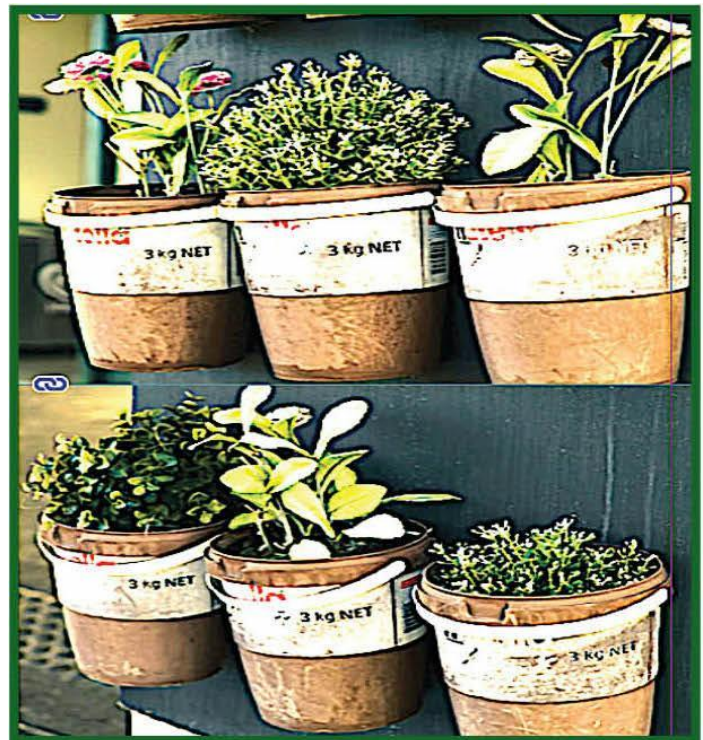
9 VEGETABLES FOR SMALL SPACES

by DANY MILLIKIN

[HomeShow Garden Pros radio show](#)

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Find a good location. Many vegetables are highly growable in containers if we fulfill a few basic requirements: full sun, a well-drained soil with copious amounts of organic matter, and consistent watering. If you happen to be new to vegetable gardening, start out with few containers so you can have success from your very first season onward. In the future you can always add more. Now, Get Gardening!





GREEN BEANS

in bush form do well in containers as small as 8" x 8" per plant. Try "Gold Rush" or "Blue Lake" for good flavor & consistent production. Pole beans need a larger container and a sturdy trellising system. 'Cherokee Trail of Tears' can be grown both for fresh green bean or as a dry bean.

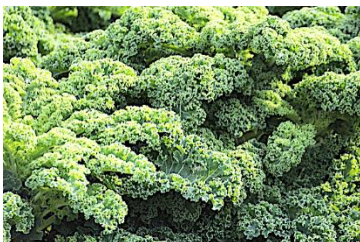


ROOT

VEGETABLES, like **TURNIPS** work well in combination with other greens. Plant an early fall crop and again in mid-summer for a spring crop. Don't forget that turnip leaves (greens) are also edible, like mustard, as they are both the same plant species, just different varieties or selections.



CHARD is becoming a container super-star for the beauty (and taste) of colorful foliage that can be harvested throughout the summer and into fall. If kept picked, tender chard leaves can be used in salads. If the leaves are older, they make a great summer spinach substitute.



GREENS — Asian greens like 'Tatsoi' or mustards like 'Red Giant' grow well in containers.



EGGPLANTS are very ornamental when grown in a pot, especially the purple Asian varieties. Try the



LETTUCES grow very well in a spring or fall container. They can be sown directly into a container


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Start other salad greens such as arugula, indoors under lights at winter's end. Outdoors, sow as soon as soil is workable. Kale and collard greens can extend harvests into summer and fall.

hybrid varieties 'Hansel' or 'Gretel' for compact plants and good production. Cage the plant for support, as with most vegetables, in containers.

or planted as transplants. Some gardeners get creative and make salad balls by connecting two wire baskets and then planting with salad plugs.



PEPPERS do well in containers and don't need as much water as other plants, such as tomatoes. The variety of colors, flavors, heat, and sizes is endless. Make sure you provide a cage for support. Fall crops can be quite heavy



RADISHES are fun to grow with children. They grow quickly, satisfying eager beginners. Harvest before temperatures begin to rise as they develop strong flavors later in spring. 'French Breakfast' has a mild flavor and tasty crunch.



SPINACH can be started in succession for a ready supply through spring and fall. The plants will bolt when the weather gets hot. Consider replacing with malabar or other heat loving plants in the height of summer.

Dany, who is also Executive Director of the [Organic Horticulture Benefits Alliance](#), shares the [HomeShow Garden Pros](#) radio show with [Nelson Nursery & Water Garden](#)'s Anita Nelson & Mary Nelson Gonzales; [Warren's Southern Gardens](#)' Diane Bulanowski; [Plants for All Seasons](#)' Sherri Harrah & Zach Buchanan and [Enchanted Forest & Gardens](#)' Joey Lenderman.