

There are many perennial crops that are loved by gardeners everywhere, Here are a few that may interest you:

- asparagus
- berry bushes - honey berries, raspberries, blueberries,
- horseradish
- rhubarb
- strawberries

Imagine growing vegetables that require no annual tilling and planting. They thrive and produce abundant, nutritious crops throughout the season. Once established in the proper site and climate, perennial vegetable plants can be virtually indestructible despite neglect. They are often more resistant to pests, diseases, drought and weeds, too.

Perennial vegetables usually have different seasons of availability from annuals providing more food throughout the year. While you are transplanting tiny annual seedlings into your vegetable garden or waiting out the mid-summer heat, many perennials are already growing strong or ready to harvest.

Some perennial veggies provide fertilizer to themselves and their neighboring plants by fixing nitrogen in the soil. Some provide habitat for beneficial insects and pollinators, while others can climb trellises and give shade to other crops.

When well mulched, perennials improve the soil's structure, organic matter, porosity and water-holding capacity.

There are a few drawbacks. Some perennials are slow to establish and may take several years to grow before they begin to yield well. Asparagus is a good example. Others are so low-maintenance that they can quickly become weeds and overtake your garden.

They must be carefully placed into a permanent location and will have to be maintained separately from your annual crops.

