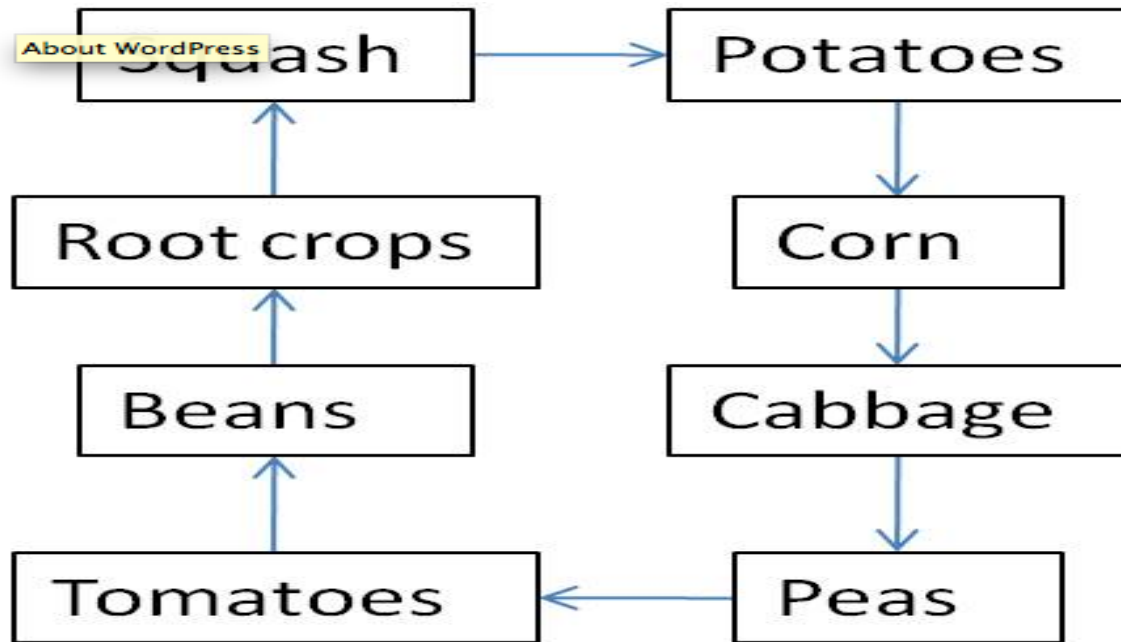


Tried and True 8 Crop Rotation Plan

By Eliot Coleman



Potatoes follow sweet corn because research has shown corn to be one of the preceding crops that most benefit the yield of potatoes.

Sweet Corn follows cabbage because corn shows no decline when following brassicas.

The Cabbage Family follows peas because it finishes by August allowing for green manure to be planted the fall before planting cabbage.

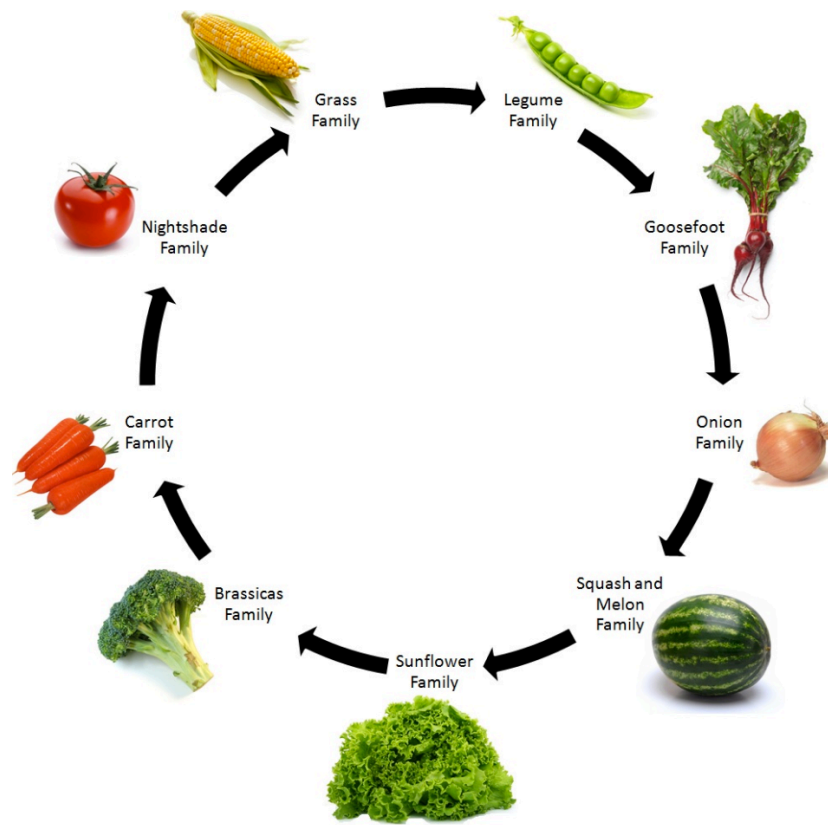
Peas follow tomatoes because then need an early seedbed and the tomatoes can be turned under providing soil protection in winter with no regrowth or decomposition problems in spring.

Tomatoes follow beans because that puts them four years away from potatoes – a close cousin.










Beans follow root crops because they are not known to be subject to detrimental effect that certain root crops such as carrots and beets exert in the following year.

Root Crops follow squash (and potatoes) because those two are both good “cleaning” crops (they can be kept weed free fairly easily) thus there are fewer weeds to contend with in the root crops, which are among the most difficult to keep weed free. Also, squash is a beneficial preceding crop for roots.

Squash follows potatoes in order to have two “cleaning” crops back to back prior to the root crops, thus reducing weed problems in the root crops.



Another View of Eliot Coleman’s Crop Rotation Plan

	Plot A	Plot B	Plot C
Year 1	Roots 	Brassicas 	Legumes & Salads 
Year 2	Legumes & Salads 	Roots 	Brassicas 
Year 3	Brassicas 	Legumes & Salads 	Roots 

Here is a 3 Year Plan for Crop Rotation in 3 Plots