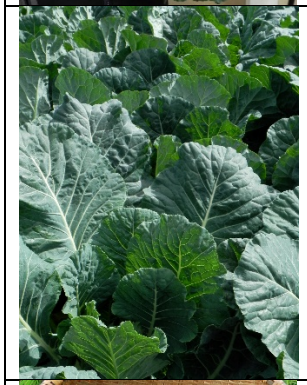
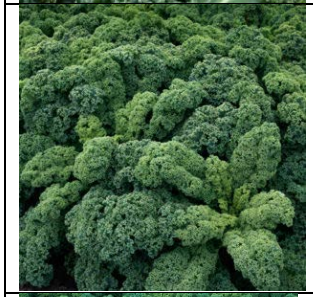
SEEDS to SUCCESS

THE LOUISIANA FARM TO SCHOOL PROGRAM

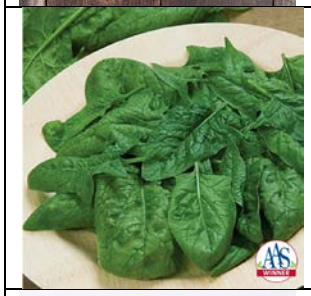
Table 1. RECOMMENDED LEAFY GREEN VARIETIES FOR LOUISIANA

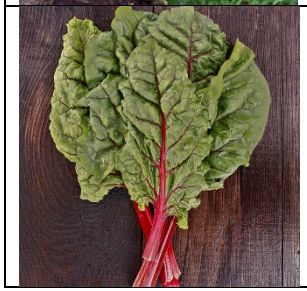
Image	Variety Name	Description	Days to Harvest* & Size	Resistance
Collards				
	Blue Max	Blue-green savoyed (crinkled, curly) leaves; heavy yields from vigorous and uniform plants; hybrid	75 days	
	Bulldog	Deep green, wavy leaves with fast regrowth; upright formation; consistent, productive hybrid	71 days 30” tall	Resistant to bolting
	Champion	Dark blue-green, tender leaves; productive and hardy; can hold in field for extended harvest; cold tolerant; open-pollinated	60-75 days 24-36” tall	Bolting

	Flash	Dark green, smooth leaves; fast regrowth; very productive; hybrid	75 days	Bolting
	Georgia (Southern or Creole)	Long, dark green, tender leaves; reliable, productive yields; good for sandy/poor soil; heirloom variety	70-75 days 36” tall	Bolting, frost resistant
	Hi-Crop	Large, heavy, blue-green leaves; good flavor and tender; vigorous and uniform; cold tolerant hybrid	75 days 18-26” tall	Bolting
	Top Bunch	Medium green attractive savoyed leaves; tall and productive; vigorous, rapid regrowth; hybrid	Baby: 30-35 Mature: 70 days	Bolting
	Vates	Large blue-green leaves; high quality; flavorful; very productive; heirloom variety	75-80 days	Bolting, frost resistant

Kale				
	Blue Knight	Curly blue-green leaves; flavorful, productive cold tolerant hybrid	Mature: 65 days Up to 4’ tall	Bolting
	Blue Ridge	Dark blue-green curly leaves; hybrid	Baby: 30-35 days Mature: 60 days	Bolting
	Darkibor	Dark green extra curly leaves; flavorful; early, cold tolerant variety; hybrid	Mature: 50-75 days 18-36” tall	
	Lacinato or Tuscano (Dinosaur)	Dark blue-green savoyed leaves; sweet and tender; cold tolerant heirloom from Tuscany, Italy	Baby: 30 days Mature: 60 days 30-40” tall	Bolting
	Red Russian	Smooth green leaves with purple veins; tender variety for baby leaf or bunching; cold tolerant; open-pollinated	Baby: 25 days Mature: 50 days 24-36” tall	

	Redbor	Purple-red curly leaves with sturdy stems; tall variety; cold tolerant, productive hybrid	Mature: 55 days 24-36” tall	
	Siberian	Tender, blue-green ruffled leaves with a thick white stem; very productive; cold tolerant; vigorous and tall variety; good for baby leaf or bunching; open-pollinated	Baby: 35-40 days Mature: 50-60 days 18-36” tall	
	Starbor	Dark blue-green finely curled leaves; compact but very productive variety; hybrid	Mature: 55 days 12-18” tall	Yellowing
	Vates (Dwarf Blue Curled)	Flavorful, dark green ruffled leaves; compact, cold tolerant variety; good for baby leaf or bunching; open-pollinated	Baby: 25-30 days Mature: 50-60 days 24” tall	Bolting
	Winterbor	Blue-green/green curly leaves; tall, cold tolerant variety; very productive; hybrid	Mature: 60 days 24-36” tall	

Spinach				
	Bloomsdale (Long Standing)	Savoyed dark green leaves; very flavorful, cold tolerant heirloom variety	42-46 days	Bolting
	Melody	Thick dark green leaves; early variety; very flavorful; hybrid	40-50 days	Bolting, downy mildew, mosaic
	Space	Smooth, medium-dark green leaves; cold tolerant, dependable hybrid	40 days	Downy mildew, leaf spot
IMAGE NOT AVAILABLE	Tyee	Dark green, lightly savoyed leaves; productive hybrid	45 days	Bolting, downy mildew
IMAGE NOT AVAILABLE	Unipack	Dark green, lightly savoyed leaves; uniform hybrid	48 days	Bolting, downy mildew
Swiss Chard				
	Bright Lights	Stunning multicolored stems (gold, pink, orange, purple, red, white) with lightly savoyed leaves; open-pollinated	Baby: 30 days Mature: 55-60 days	Bolting, frost resistant

	Bright Yellow	Deep green savoyed leaves with bright yellow stem; open-pollinated	Baby: 28 days Mature: 57 days	
	Fordhook Giant	Large, dark green savoyed leaves with broad white stems; very productive; heirloom variety	Baby: 20-27 days Mature: 55-60 days	Bolting, frost resistant
	Lucullus	Large, pale green savoyed leaves with white stems; heirloom variety	Baby: 30 days Mature: 50 days	Bolting, frost resistant
	Ruby Red or Rhubarb	Dark green savoyed leaves on true red stems; great for baby leaf as stem colors early; heirloom variety	Baby: 30 days Mature: 55-65 days	Bolting, frost resistant

*Notes: *From seed to harvest*

Table varieties selected from recommendations from LSU AgCenter, UF Extension, Texas A&M Extension, and Southeastern U.S. Vegetable Crop Handbook. Variety descriptions compiled from Southern Exposure Seed Exchange, High Mowing Organic Seeds, Johnny's Selected Seeds, Sow True Seed, All-America Selections, Hoss Tools, Osborne Seed Company, and Sakata Seed America.

Other recommended Spinach varieties for Louisiana include: Ballet, Greyhound, Tiger Cat