



# Estimated Water Requirements of Vegetable Crops

Frank J. Dainello, Extension Horticulturist  
 Department of Horticultural Sciences, Texas A&M University

<b>CROP</b>	<b>INCHES /A</b>	<b>CRITICAL NEED STAGE</b>
Asparagus	10 - 18	establishment and fern development
Bean, green	10 - 15	bloom and pod set
Bean, pinto	15 - 20	bloom and pod set
Beet, table	10 - 15	establishment and early growth
Broccoli	20 - 25	establishment and heading
Cabbage	20 - 30	uniform throughout growth
Cantaloupe	13 - 20	establishment vining to first net
Carrot	10 - 15	emergence through establishment
Cauliflower	20 - 30	establishment and 6 - 7 leaf stage
Celery	30 - 35	uniform, last month of growth
Collards/kale	12 - 14	uniform throughout growth
Corn, sweet	20 - 35	establishment, tassel elongation, ear development
Cowpea	10 - 15	bloom, fruit set, pod development
Cucumber, pickle	15 - 20	establishment, vining, fruit set
Cucumber, slicer	20 - 25	establishment, vining, fruit set
Eggplant	20 - 35	bloom through fruit set
Garlic	15 - 20	rapid growth to maturity
Lettuce	8 - 12	establishment
Mustard green	10 - 15	uniform throughout growth
Okra	15 - 20	uniform throughout growth
Onion	25 - 30	establishment, bulbing to maturity
Pepper, bell	25 - 35	establishment, bloom set
Pepper, jalapeno	25 - 30	uniform throughout growth
Potato	20 - 40	vining, bloom, tuber initiation
Pumpkin	25 - 30	2-4 wks after emergence, bloom, fruit set and development
Radish, red globe	5 - 10	rapid growth and development
Spinach	10 - 15	uniform throughout growth, after each cut if needed
Squash	7 - 10	uniform throughout growth
Sweetpotato	10 - 20	uniform until 2 - 3 wks prior to anticipated harvest
Tomato	20 - 25	bloom through harvest
Turnip	10 - 15	uniform throughout growth
Watermelon	10 - 15	uniform until 10 - 14 days prior to anticipated harvest