

Fresh Delaware produce available

NEWARK, Del. — When it comes to quality local fruits and vegetables, Delaware shoppers have lots to enjoy now and in the months ahead. The growing season is well under way.

According to University of Delaware extension marketing specialist Carl German, Delaware farmers raise about 45,000 acres of fruits and vegetables each year. About 10,000 of those acres are grown specifically for the fresh market.

Some of this locally grown produce is available direct from the grower via pick-your-own operations, roadside stands, farmers' markets and/or warehouse sales. Many other markets buy much of their stock from a supporting network of area farmers, so chances are good that seasonal items were produced locally. (Check the accompanying chart to learn approximately when specific crops will be harvested in Delaware.)

In 1982, German says, the total cash farm value of fruits and vegetables grown in the state amounted to over \$25 million. Of that, about 40 percent came from crops destined for the fresh market. The rest came from processed and institutional sales.

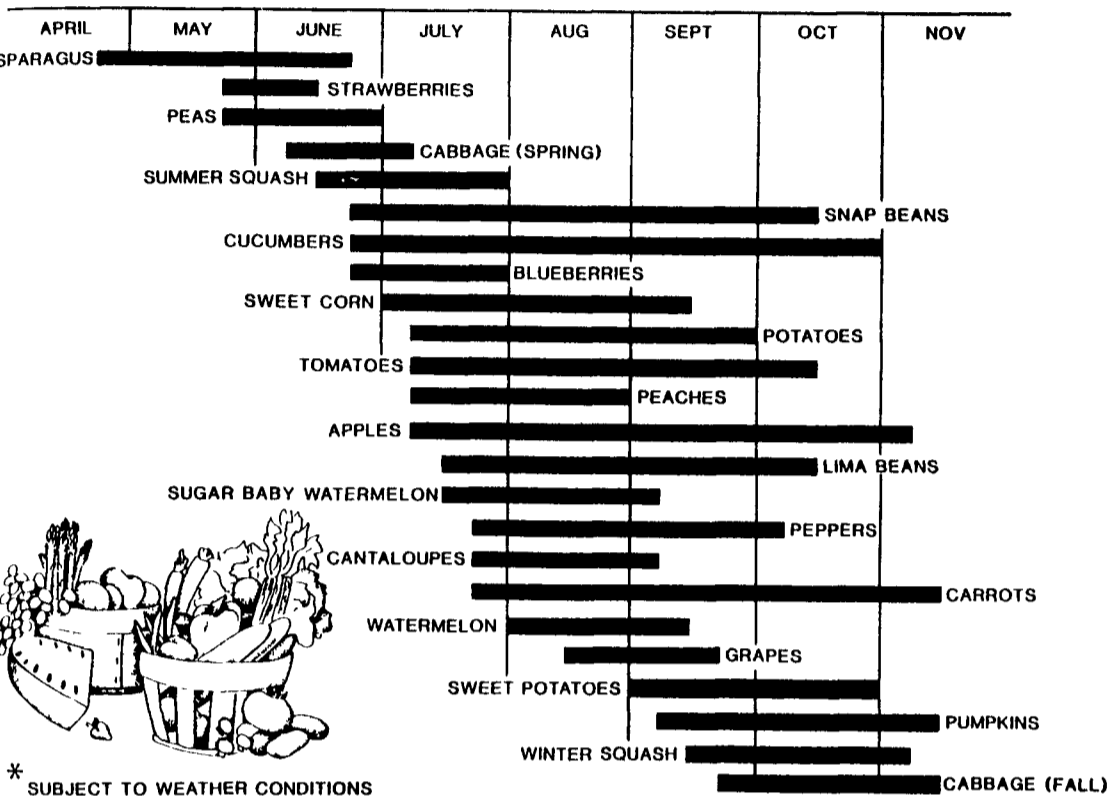
With a harvest period that extends from mid-April to mid-November, area consumers should have no trouble finding plenty of fresh, local produce. To make shopping even easier, the

Delaware Department of Agriculture has prepared a directory of roadside and pick-your-own markets in the state.

Copies of the 1984 directory are available from the Department of Agriculture or from county extension offices in Newark, Dover and Georgetown.



Harvest & Marketing Seasons for Fresh Fruits & Vegetables Grown in Delaware.*

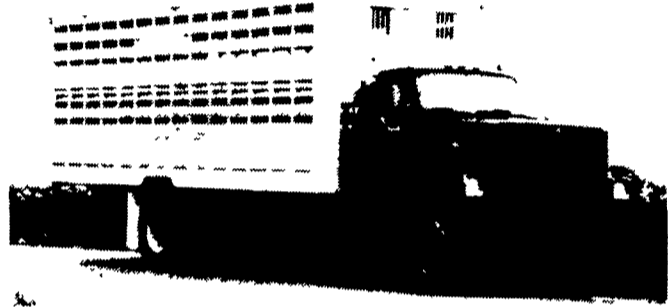


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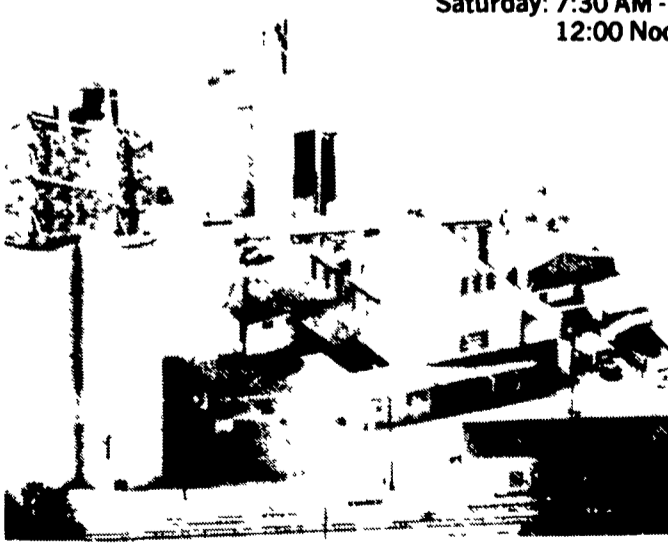
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