

Classification of vegetables

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Learning outcome

- 1. The students will understand the Classification of vegetables.**
- 2. Classification of vegetables: 1) Botanical 2) Based on Hardiness 3) Parts Used 4) Method of culture 5) Season**

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Botanical classification

All vegetable belongs to Division Angiospermae. The Angiospermae has 2 classes mono and dicotyledone. They are further divided in to families, genus, species, subspecies and botanical varieties. The grouping of vegetables therefore is as follows

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A. Monocotyledonae:

1. Amaryllidaceae – Onion, Garlic, Leak, Shallot, Chive.
2. Liliaceae – Asparagus
3. Araceae – Colocasia esculenta
4. Dioscoreaceae – Yam

B. Dicotyledonous plants (vegetables):

1. Chenopodiaceae – Palak, Beetroot, Spinach
2. Compositae – Lettuce, chikori
3. Convolvulaceae – Sweet potato.
4. Brassicaceae – Cabbage, Cauliflower
5. Cruciferae – Brussels, Cole rabi or knol-khol, radish, mustard.
6. Cucurbitaceae – All cucurbitaceous vegetables

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7. Euphorbiaceae: Tapioca (*Manihot esculenta*)
8. Leguminosae : Pea (*Pisum sativum*) French bean (*Phaseolus vulgaris*)
Lima bean Asparagus bean (*Vigna unguiculata* var *sesquipedalis*) Cluster
bean (*Cyamopsis tetragonoloba*) Gem (*Dolichos lablab*) Winged bean
(*Psochocarpus tetragonolobus*) Soya bean (*Glycine max*) Methi (*Trigonella
fonumgreacum*)
9. Malvaceae: Okra (Bendi)
10. Poligonaceae: Sorrel, Rhubarb (*Rheum rhapontium*)
11. Solanaceae nPotato: *Solanum tuberosum* Brinjal: *Solanum melongena*
Tomato: *Lycopersicon esculentum* Chillies: *Capsicum frutescence* Pepper:
Capsicum annum
12. Umbelliferae (Apiaceae) Carrot, parsley,
13. Rutaceae: Curry leaf *Murraya koenigii* (Munaga)

Vegetables classification based on plant parts used: According to parts used for consumption

- 1. Leafy vegetables:** Amaranthus, Cabbage and Palak
- 2. Fruts :** Tomato, Brinjal, Bhendi, Peas, Beans, Cucurbits
- 3. Flower parts:** Cauliflower and Broccoli
- 4. Under ground parts:**
 - a) Stem tubers:** Potato and colocasia
 - b) Root tubers:** Carrot, Sweet potato and Tapioca
 - c) Bulbs:** Onion and garlic

Classification based on season of growing

- 1. Kharif season** –June to September – Cucurbits, Brinjal, Okra
- 2. Rabi season** - October to January – Cabbage, cauliflower, Beet, Peas, tomato
- 3. Summer season** – February to May – Brinjal, Chilli, cluster beans, Bottle gourd

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Classification based on method of cultivation

This is a very convenient method. In this method all the crops that have similar cultural requirements are grouped together. Therefore it is possible to recommend general cultural practices for all vegetables, which are grouped together. Some groups like cucurbits, cold crops, bulb crops are not only have similar cultural requirements for the group but the crops in each group belong to same family. The groups like greens, salad crops, bulb crops, the parts edible in each group are also same. Therefore this system of classification has been found to be more satisfactory in understanding the principles of vegetable growing than any other methods. According to this method the vegetables are grouped in to 13 groups

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Group No. Group name Examples

Group 1-Perennial vegetables - Asparagus, Coccinea

Group 2- Greens -Spinch, Palak

Group 3 -Sald crops- Celery, Lettuce

Group 4- Cole crops -Cabage, Cauliflower

Group 5- Root crops -Beet root, Carrot, Radish

Group 6 -Bulb crops -Onion, Garlic, Leek

Group 7- Potato

Group 8- Sweet Potato

Group 9 -Peas and beans Pea, cowpea, French bean

Group 10 -Solanacious vegetables Tomato, Brinjal, Chilli

Group 11- Sweet corn, Okra

Group 12 -Cucurbits -Bottle gourd, Pumpkin

Group 13 -Yam, Tapioca

Name of the Faculty: Dr. Vivak Ujjwal

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