

# 2024 Provincial Vegetable Transplant Program Guide

Application Deadline: **February 8, 2024**

Applications received after the program deadline will be date-stamped  
in case of undersubscription

The Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture (FFA) is committed to protecting personal information, which is being collected in accordance with section 61(c) of the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act, 2015 (ATIPPA, 2015) and will be used for the purpose of administering the Vegetable Transplant Program. It will not be used for any other purposes unless authorized under ATIPPA, 2015.

For more information please contact:  
Manager of Agricultural Services  
P.O. Box 2006, 192 Wheelers Rd,  
Corner Brook, NL A2H 6J8  
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709-637-2672



## **Program Objective**

To provide commercial vegetable producers in Newfoundland and Labrador with high-quality vegetable transplants in an effort to diversify the current provincial crop profile, expand vegetable production area, and demonstrate the enhanced productivity realized by utilizing transplants.

## **Program Background**

Agriculture production in Newfoundland and Labrador has traditionally been defined by a cool and short growing season. To address these challenges, the Provincial Government introduced the Vegetable Transplant Program. Transplanting crops allows plants to reach full maturity in a short growing season, promotes higher marketable yields, and allows for production of a more diverse variety of crops compared to direct seeding. While vegetable transplants have many advantages over direct seeding, not all commercial producers have access to the infrastructure required to produce transplants.

## **Eligibility Requirements**

- Applicant must be registered as a farm enterprise with the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador and possess a current/valid farm registration number. To register your farm contact the Farm Industry Review Board ([MartinaGallant@gov.nl.ca](mailto:MartinaGallant@gov.nl.ca)).
- Applicant must ensure proper and full utilization and care of all plant material received under the Program.
- Applicant must allow for inspection(s) during the growing season to assess the utilization of the transplant material.
- Applicant must complete a feedback form following the completion of the growing season.
- Applicant must be compliant with the previous year's program (where applicable).
- Applicant must be in good standing with the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, and not in arrears with previous years' programs.

## **Ineligible Activities**

- Re-distribution (i.e. selling, transferring, disposal) of transplants to other farm enterprises or individuals.
- Negligence or application of poor farming practices or standards.
- Crop loss from insect infestation, plant disease, or excessive weeds where the applicant fails to implement any program, including crop rotation plans, recommended by the Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture in a timely manner.
- Crop loss from any area that, in the opinion of the Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture, the applicant does not properly prepare for seeding or planting (e.g. excessive stone, rock or weeds).
- Unacceptable delays in planting and/or negligence in care of transplants prior to planting.

## Crop Offerings

Crop Type	Variety	Approximate Days to Maturity (from transplant)
Cabbage	Bronco	90
	Expect	105
Rutabaga	York	100
Broccoli	Castle Dome	60
	Gypsy	65
Cauliflower	Amazing	75
Onion	Oneida	80
	Talon	85
	Candy	85
	Red Spring	85
Kale	Winterbor	60
Lettuce	Green Forest	60
Leek	Lancelot	85
Asparagus	Mary Washington	Perennial

### Transplant Production and Pricing

- All transplants will be produced at the Centre for Agriculture and Forestry Development in Wooddale, Newfoundland and Labrador.
- Plants will be grown in 200-cell trays and sold to eligible applicants for \$2.00 per tray, with the exception of asparagus, which will be offered at \$0.05 per plug.
  - Note that each tray will not yield exactly 200 transplants, as 100 per cent germination cannot be guaranteed
- A mix of peat from Wooddale, and perlite will be neutralized with lime and used as the growth media for transplant production.
- Transplants will be produced using conventional (non-organic) vegetable plug production practices (i.e. chemical fungicide and synthetic fertilizers).
- Greenhouse grow times will be as follows:
  - Brassicas (cabbage, rutabaga, broccoli, cauliflower and kale) – 4 to 6 weeks
  - Onion and Leek – 10 weeks
  - Lettuce – 4 weeks
  - Asparagus – one-year plug

### Application Assessment Process

- Applications must be received on or before the application deadline.
- Applications will be reviewed for eligibility and completion, and eligible applicants will receive their order confirmation via e-mail.

## Oversubscriptions

Oversubscriptions for any particular crop variety will result in adjustments to orders.

## Pick-up Dates and Locations

- Applicants will be notified via e-mail when plants are available for pick-up at their specified pick-up location.
- Transplants will be available for pick-up between the hours of 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. on weekdays.
- Applicants must have appropriate and fully prepared equipment to receive/transport their transplants.
- Applicant must pay for transplants at pick-up.
- Transplants can be picked up from one of the following three locations:
  - **St. John's** (Provincial Agriculture Building, Brookfield Rd., St. John's)
  - **Wooddale** (Centre for Agriculture and Forestry Development behind weigh scales on Trans-Canada Highway, Grand Falls-Windsor)
  - **Pynn's Brook**- (Western Agriculture Centre behind weigh scales on Trans-Canada Highway, Pynn's Brook).

## Crop Insurance Information

The AgrilInsurance program can insure rutabaga and cabbage transplants purchased from the transplant program against weather, insects, disease and wildlife. This program can help financially if a crop loss or a reduction in quality or yield is experienced. Minimum acreage of ½ an acre per insured crop and 1 acre per farm applies. Contact Andrew Smith on the west coast at AndrewNSmith@gov.nl.ca 709-686-2702 ext. 227 or Brianna Barrett on the east coast at BriannaBarrett@gov.nl.ca 709-729-6551 for more information about the program.

## Application Deadline and Submission

Applications must be submitted to the Vegetable Transplant Program on or before **February 8, 2024**, via either of the following:

- **Digital Form:**  
<https://www.gov.nl.ca/ffa/VTP>
- **Email:**  
VTP@gov.nl.ca
- **Mail:**  
Vegetable Transplant Program  
Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture  
Agriculture Production and Research Division  
P.O. Box 2006, 192 Wheeler's Road  
Corner Brook, NL A2H 6J8