Intercropping Module Instructions
January 2, 2013

This Intercropping Module will help you make intercropping plans for the purpose of saving cultivatable space. The module was designed after careful review of intercropping and companion planting literature along with limited ground testing, to develop some crop pairings. The module does not include an exhaustive list of all possible pairings.

The intercropping options included here have been chosen primarily because they balance tall, widely-spaced plants with short, densely-spaced plants that will tolerate shade cast by a tall neighboring plant. Companion planting literature was a secondary consideration. You may use this module to simply decide on intercropping pairs to include in your farm plan but the module was designed for use with the intercropping feature of the Fantastic Farm and Garden Calculator (FFGC).

Crops listed across the top of this module are tall, or trellised vine-type plants that are generally widely spaced. The left column includes a wide range of crops that may or may not be planted with those listed across the top of the table. Crops in green cells are shade-tolerant and those in yellow cells are partial shade-tolerant. Green or yellow cells located at the intersection of crops listed across the top and crops listed in the left column indicate appropriate pairs to intercrop. Cells shaded in pink indicate pairs that are considered to be antagonists and should not be planted together.

To use the module in concert with the intercropping feature of the FFGC, first create an FFGC plan and then use this module to arrive at the number of row feet that you will intercrop. In the Intercropping Module, locate the cell at the intersection of an appropriate pair. Input the number of row feet you plan to cultivate of the intercropped pair. For example, you may want to intercrop 20 row feet of lettuce with 20 row feet of tomatoes. Find the cell at the intersection of lettuce and tomatoes and input "20" into this cell. You may also want to intercrop 15 row feet of arugula with an additional 15 row feet of tomatoes. Find the cell at the intersection of arugula and tomatoes and input "15" into this cell.

After you have selected pairs and input the number of row feet intercropped for each pair, note the value in the "**Total Ft Each Crop**" blue cells across the bottom of this module, and in the second to last column on the right. To make sure you have not intercropped more of any one crop than you had planned to cultivate, compare these values to the values in the **Total Row Feet** column in the **Cold** and **Hot Weather Crop Row Planting Information** sections of your FFGC plan. Finally, note the number of feet in the two, "**Total Row Ft Intercropped**" purple cells in the lower right corner of the module. The value in these two cells should be exactly the same. This is the number you will input into the "**Row feet double-planted, intercropping**" cell in the **Basic Information** section of your FFGC plan.

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