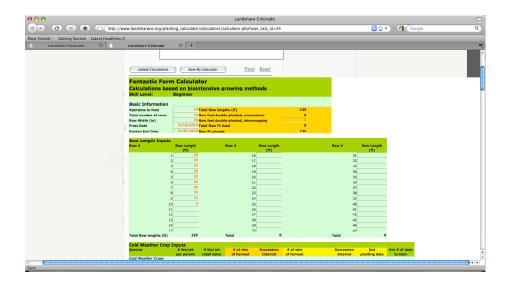
Using the FFGC with Templates

This overview is given as 1) a demonstration of the basics of using the FFGC with the Templates and 2) as a procedure to follow to get the most out of using the calculator. When using this overview as a procedure to follow, it is necessary to use it in conjunction with the Calculator Instructions. Many small-plot gardeners will be able to use the FFGC without the templates, but those who are growing a large variety and quantity of crops will find the templates very useful for managing information about planting and harvest.

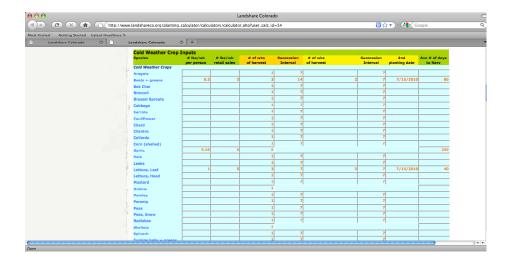
Part 1: Filling in the FFGC

The following examples are from the Demo calculator filled in during the FFGC Training Video.

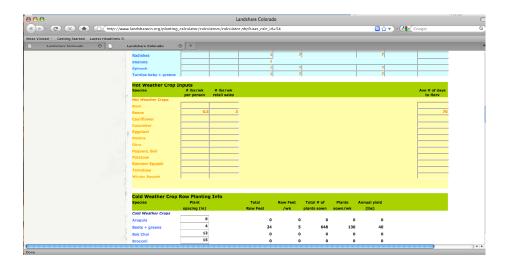
To begin, fill in the Basic Information and Row Length Information sections of calculator.



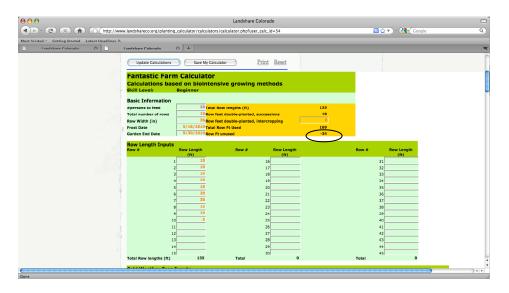
Fill in the crop harvest goals for cold weather crops.



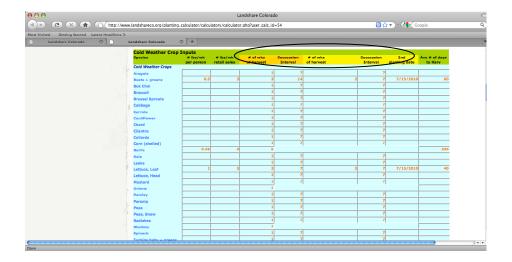
Fill in the crop harvest goals for hot weather crops.



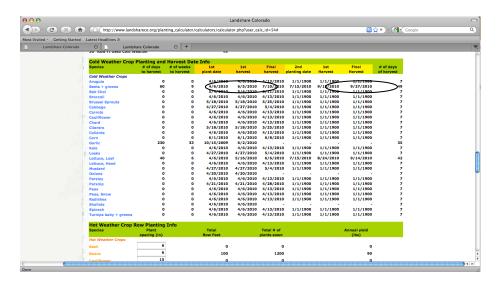
Check the "Row Ft unused" cell in the orange area of the Basic Information section to see if the amount of space used to achieve the crop harvest goals is more than the amount of space available.



Adjust the harvest goals for the cold and hot weather crops until the amount of space used = the amount of space available and the "Row Ft unused" is 0, or as close to 0 as possible. Be aware that <u>later season</u> cold weather crop harvest goals (fields headed in yellow) do not affect the amount of space used because these crops are planted in the same location as early season cold weather crops (fields headed in orange).



Be sure to check the appropriateness of the 2nd planting date for each later season cold weather crop against the Cold Weather Crop Planting and Harvest Date information section of the calculator. The 2nd planting date should be later than the 1st harvest date, but with sufficient maturation time for the Final Harvest to occur before the Garden End Date that was input in the Basic Information section.

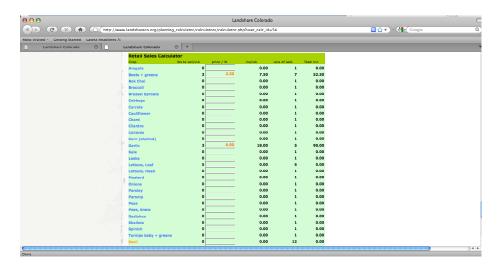


Make intercropping plans and input the intercropping amount in the orange area of the Basic Information section.



Adjust the harvest goals for cold and hot weather crops using the additional space created by intercropping, until the amount of space used = space available and the "Row Ft unused" is 0 or as close to 0 as possible.

If using the Farm version of the calculator, fill in the Retail Sales module.



Print the calculator (it is possible to print the calculator in black and white by changing the printer settings).

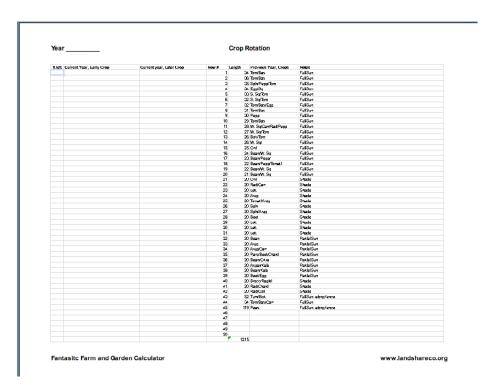
Part 2: Using the Templates

The following examples are from the actual farm plan used by HeartEye Village CSA.

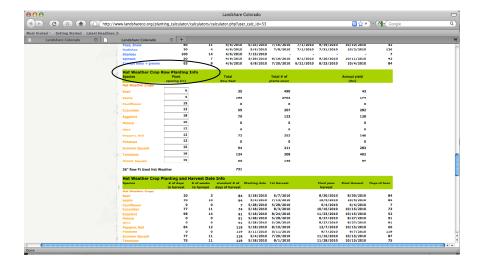
Print, or open in Excel, the Crop Rotation template.



Fill in by hand, or using Excel, all information for the growing space, including Row # and Length, Previous Year Crop and Notes on sun exposure.

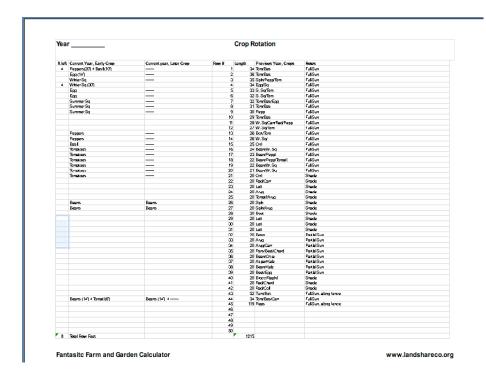


Use the Hot Weather Row Planting Information section of the calculator to fill in the Crop Rotation template.

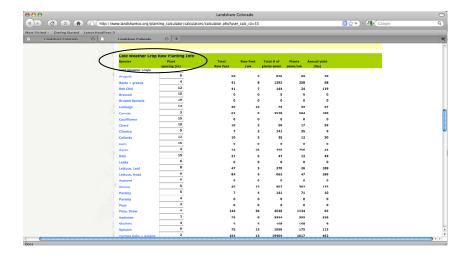


Fill in the Hot Weather Crops in the appropriate rows in the Current Year, Early Crop column. As you choose where to plant each crop keep in mind:

Row amount needed Rotations from previous years Notes for sun exposure Intercropping goals

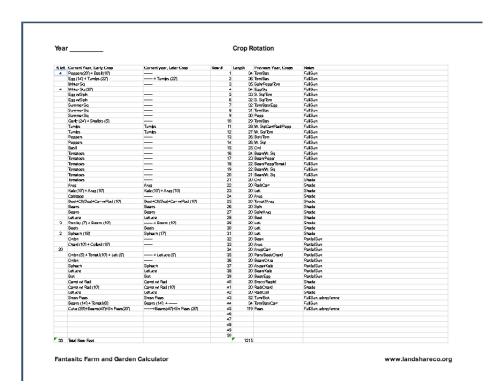


Use the Cold Weather Row Planting Information section of the calculator to fill in the Crop Rotation template.



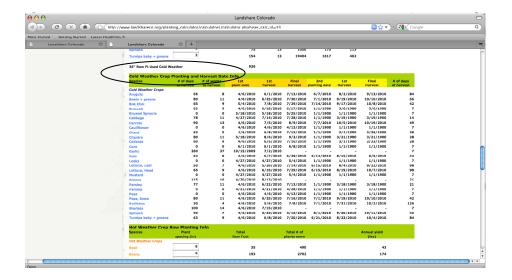
Fill in the Cold Weather Crops in appropriate rows in Current Year, Early Crop column and in Current Year, Later Crop column. As you choose where to plant each crop keep in mind:

Row amount needed Rotations from previous years Notes for sun exposure Intercropping goals

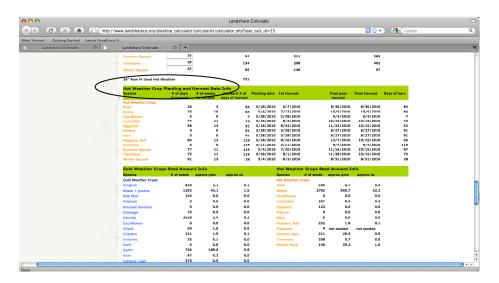


Print the filled in Crop Rotation template.

Use the filled in Crop Rotation template and the Planting and Harvest Dates Information section of the calculator for the Cold Weather Crops...



...and for the Hot Weather Crops...



...to fill in the Planting Overview.

Jan wk 1	Jan wk 2	Jan wk 3	Jan wk 4	Feb wk 1	Feb wk 2	Feb wk 3	Feb wk 4	Mar wk 1	Mar wk 2	Mar wk 3	Mar wk 4	
	+											
	_											
	1											
	1		L					I				

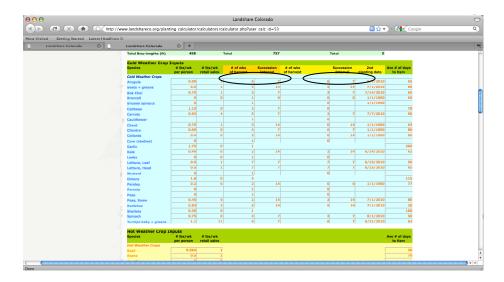
For Hot weather crops fill in the crops and Row # (from the Crop Rotation template) under the week they will be planted (from the Planting and Harvest Date section of the calculator).

Year		Planting Overview								
April wk 1	April wk 2	April wk 3	April wk 4	May wk 1	May wk 2	May wk 3	May wk 4	June wk 1	June w	
				Summer Sq R7, R8, R9		Tomato R16, R17, R18				
				Winter Sq R3, R4		Tomato R19, R20, R21				
						Peppers R2				
						Basil R2				
									1	

For Cold Weather Crops fill in the crops and Row # (from the Crop Rotation template) under the week of the 1st planting date (from the Planting and Harvest Date section of the calculator)...

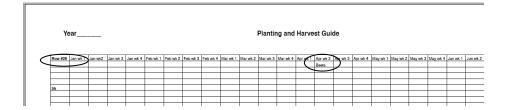
			Planting Overview									
April wk 1	April wk 2	April wk 3	April wk 4	May wk 1	May wk 2	May wk 3	May wk 4	June wk 1	June wk			
	Beets R30		Beets R30, R25	Summer Sq R7, R8, R9	Beets R25	Tomatoes R16, R17, R18						
	Lettuce R28	Lettuce R28	Lettuce R28	Winter Sq R3, R4		Tomatoes R19, R20, R21						
						Beppers R2						
						Basil R2						
					+							

...and fill in the same information for the subsequent successions using the # of weeks and the interval that was input in the Cold Weather Crop Input Section of calculator.

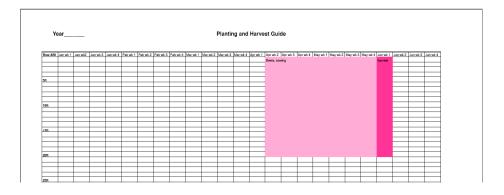


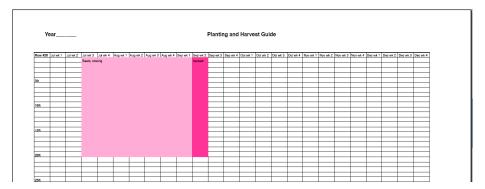
Use the filled in Planting Overview and the calculator to fill in the Planting and Harvest Guides.

Use the Planting Overview to fill in the Row #, and to fill in crop name where the crop location in the Row and the planting week intersect



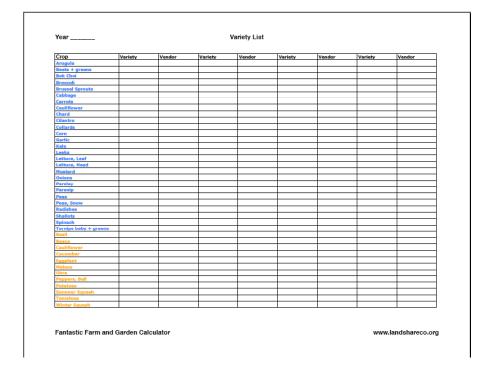
Use the Cold Weather Crop Planting Info section of the calculator, the column headed "Row Feet /week" to determine the amount of row feet planted for each succession. And use the Planting and Harvest Dates info section of Calc to determine the amount of row feet planted,to shade in maturation time and harvest length. The following demonstrates an early season succession and a late season succession of beets.





Place the Crop Rotation template, the Planting Overview and Planting and Harvest Guides in a binder and use it as a reference book throughout the growing season.

Fill in the Variety Template for all varieties you will use.



Use the Variety Template and Seed Amount section of calculator to order seeds.

