

# PREPPERBASE – SURVIVAL GARDEN GUIDE

## Section 4: Templates & Checklists

### TEMPLATES & CHECKLISTS

#### SPRING PLANTING

- Review last year's rotation map
- Test soil pH in each section
- Add compost to heavy feeder sections
- Mark bean sections (leave roots from last year)
- Order needed seeds
- Plant early potatoes in designated section
- Direct seed peas and early beans
- Plan succession planting schedule

#### SUMMER MAINTENANCE

- Monitor potato section for late blight
- Hill potato plants as they grow
- Succession plant beans every 2 weeks
- Weed all sections thoroughly
- Mulch squash section heavily
- Check corn pollination success
- Scout for Colorado potato beetles
- Watch for cabbage worms in brassicas

#### FALL HARVEST

- Harvest potatoes 2 weeks after vines die
- Cure winter squash at 80°F for 10-14 days
- Harvest dry beans when pods are dry
- Cut bean plants, LEAVE ROOTS in ground
- Plant winter wheat (if space allows)
- Plant cover crops in empty sections
- Move harvests to proper storage
- Take photos of each section & document

#### WINTER PLANNING

- Check stored crops monthly
- Remove any spoiling produce immediately
- Plan next year's rotation schedule
- Order seeds for next season
- Review this year's successes and failures
- Update rotation map for next year
- Inventory saved seeds
- Research solutions for problem crops

## QUICK MEMORY AIDS

**The "Beans Before" Rule:** Always plant beans the year before heavy feeders (potatoes, corn, squash, brassicas)

**The "Three Years Minimum" Rule:** Never return potatoes, brassicas, or beans to the same spot for 3+ years

**The "Root Follows Leaf" Principle:** Alternate above-ground and below-ground crops each year

**The "Light Follows Heavy" Balance:** Heavy Feeder → Nitrogen Fixer → Light Feeder → Heavy Feeder

## ANNUAL RECORD TEMPLATE — DOCUMENT EACH YEAR

- ▶ Section planted with specific crop and varieties
- ▶ Plant date and harvest date
- ▶ Yield in pounds per section
- ▶ Problems encountered (pests, diseases, weather)
- ▶ Seeds saved: Yes/No + quantity stored
- ▶ Photos: planting, mid-season, harvest
- ▶ Soil amendments added (compost amount, cover crops)
- ▶ Solutions applied and their effectiveness