

your garden needs...



...vegetables from China

packetseeds.com has sourced several vegetable varieties from China: Chinese cabbage, Chinese radish, and pumpkins in bright orange or near black colours.

We hope that you find them interesting for your garden or allotment.

Please note that we have not trialled these varieties ourselves fully yet, they are offered sight unseen – but from the variety descriptions and pictures they look very interesting.

Names given are directly from the Chinese.

Chinese cabbage (*Brassica rapa pekinensis*) (大白菜)

This leaf vegetable is well known in Europe. We have sourced two varieties of interest with a very different appearance to the normal shape and size. Please note that they need sowing early; sowings after April have a tendency to bolt.



Variety 90-1: F₁ hybrid. Each plant is much smaller in size than a normal variety and as such is suitable for smaller gardens. Height approximately 30cm, 15 – 20cm in diameter with light green leaves. Mature in 8 – 10 weeks. Head weight 2+kg.



Variety Xinqing: F₁ hybrid. Each plant has an unusual cylindrical shape, very attractive. Height is 60cm, head weight around 3.5kg. Matures in 13 – 15 weeks.

Chinese radish (*Raphanus sativus*) (萝卜)

Chinese radishes are larger and have distinct colours compared to their European cousins. A pair are offered here, one red skinned and the other red fleshed.

Variety Chuhong: F₁ hybrid. Cylindrical shape, skin red in colour with white flesh, 14cm long, 3cm diameter, weight 125g, a light, sweet taste. Maturity 8 – 9 weeks.



Pumpkin (Cucurbita maxima) (南瓜)

Most pumpkins are orange. Here we offer a pair of pumpkins, one orange the other nearly black. The traditional colours for Halloween are orange and black, so why not grow both varieties and use them for displays in October?

Variety Hongxingli: F₁ hybrid, red-orange fruit, 12 – 14 weeks to maturity, each plant bears 2 – 3 fruits, each fruit weighs 1 – 1.5kg. Flesh thick, sweet and of good quality.



Variety Heixingli: F₁ hybrid, very dark green ('black') fruit with yellow-green flesh. Each plant bears 2 – 3 fruits, each fruit weighs 1.5 – 2kg. Pinching at the 5 – 6 leaf stage will give two main stems for easier cultivation. Tolerant to drought and low temperature.

