

THE PERPETUAL HARVEST HACK How to Grow a Continual Harvest of Fresh Food All Year Long (or greatly extend your growing season)

# **OVERVIEW**:

- 1. Introduction
- 2. What is succession (leapfrog) planting?
- 3. The winter "bell curve"
- 4. Our perpetual harvest hack

# MY STORY





































There was a very <u>noticeable</u> difference in the amount of fruitage this year compared to last year... I really got to give credit where credit is due, so I thank God and thank you for sharing the knowledge and wisdom to the masses."

Roy Kim - New York USA



There was only one small space in the yard that got much sun so I put in an 8 foot by 4 foot garden of Russian kale, Georgia southern collards, and black seeded Simpson lettuce in September... The lettuce needed more sun and didn't do well, but the kale and collards did well all winter... I ate fresh greens all winter."

James Hunt - Tennessee USA



## WHAT IS SUCCESSION (LEAPFROG) PLANTING?

#### WHAT IS LEAPFROG PLANTING?

- 1. What is leapfrog planting?
- 2. Each time you harvest a crop, you have another crop ready to plant
- 3. Example with lettuce
- 4. Example with peas and green beans

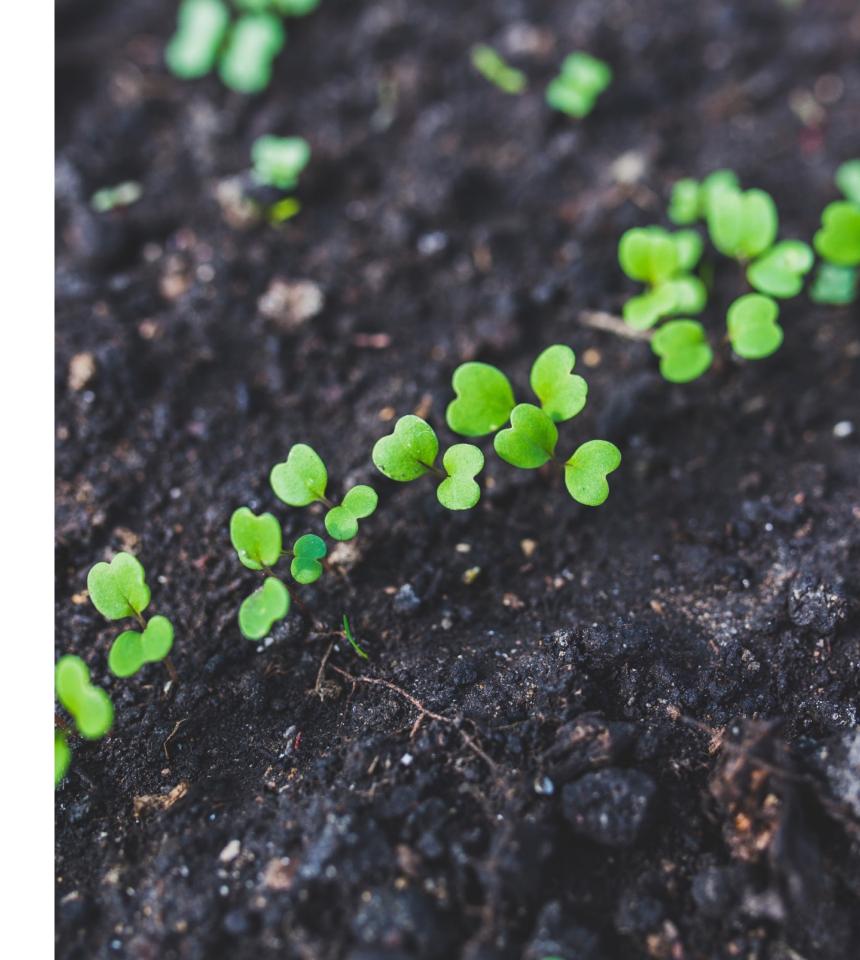


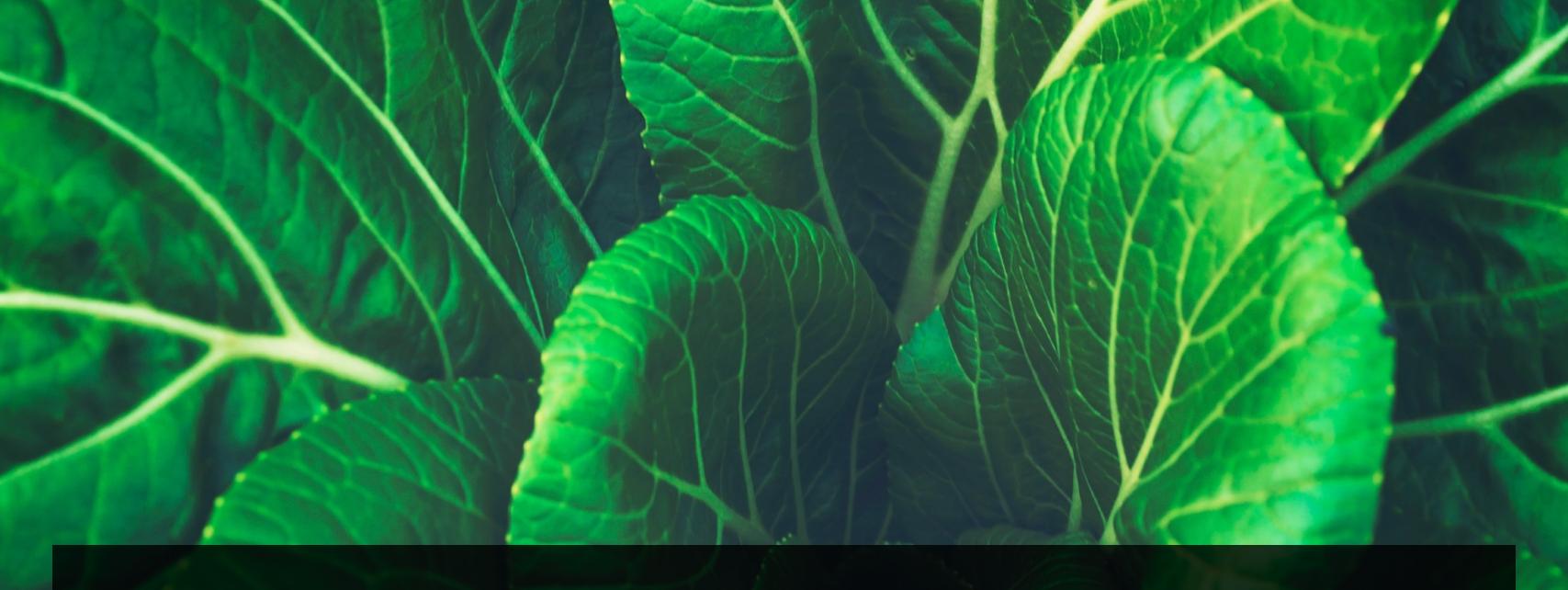
#### **LEAPFROG PLANTING**

- 1. But leapfrog planting can be complex too
  - 1. You've got to figure out when to plant your first crop
  - 2. Then how long before it will be harvested
  - 3. And how long of a harvest window you can expect from it
  - 4. And then when to plant the second "leapfrog" crop so that it is ready to go in when the first crop is harvested
  - 5. Plus figure out how long in the season the crop can be grown
  - 6. And then repeat that for each crop because they are all different

### **LEAPFROG PLANTING**

- 1. It really doesn't take that much more physical work.
- 2. Complicated? You bet it sure can be!
- 3. Unless you're using the "Perpetual Harvest Hack"!





## THE WINTER "BELL CURVE"

- The first critical factor when it comes to season extension is the timing of when you plant your veggies
- 2. Timing can make all the difference from having a harvest – to no harvest at all



- So, what happens is as the weather gets cooler and as the day length decreases – plants growth slows down and will eventually come to a stop (or near a stop)
- 2. As a general rule, plant growth slows down the most when days become 10 hours or shorter





- During this period in the winter your plants won't actually be growing and hence our purpose in season extension isn't so much to grow plants in the winter as it is to keep them alive through the winter
- $\blacktriangleright$  The critical factor then is to know when to plant your plants during the summer or fall so that they will be mature by the time winter sets in



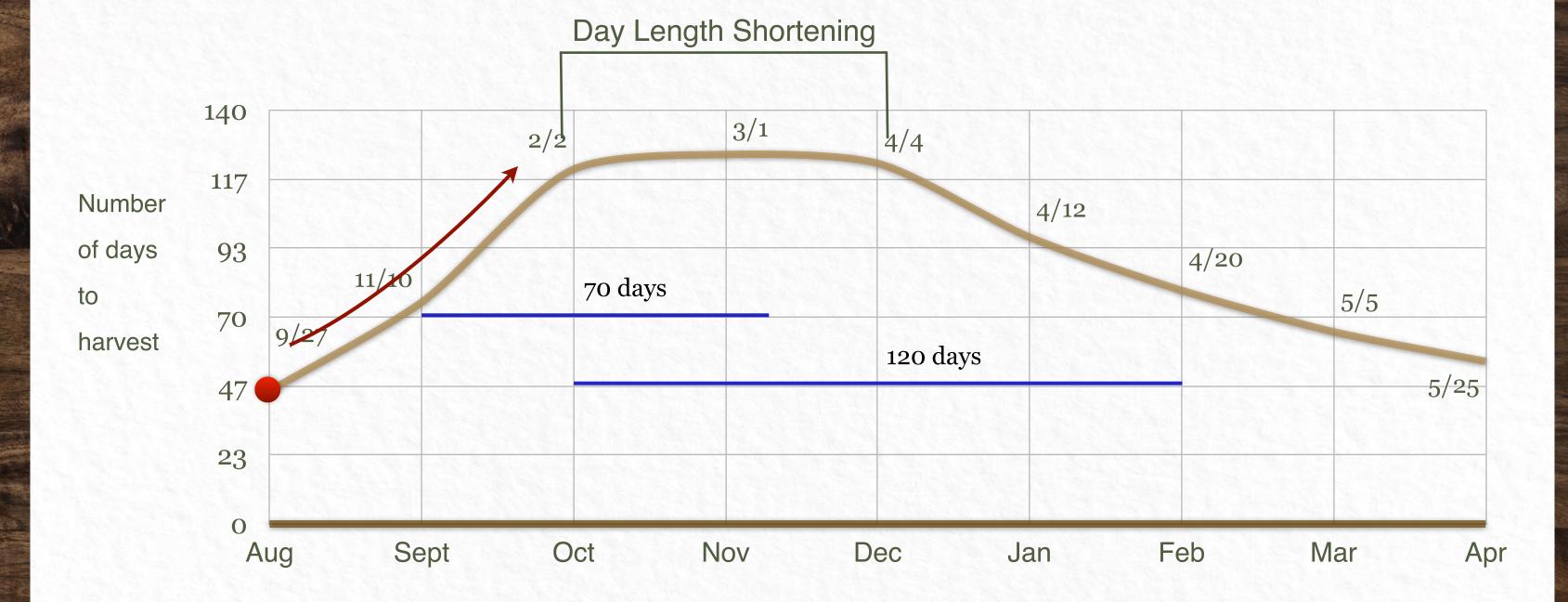


Or if you are wanting early crops in the spring then you're simply dealing with the reverse (plants growth starts to speed up again like a bell curve) and you'll want to know when to plant them in the winter so that they will be at the right stage to harvest in the spring



## PLANTING FOR A CONTINUAL HARVEST

Adapted from The New Organic Grower p. 260

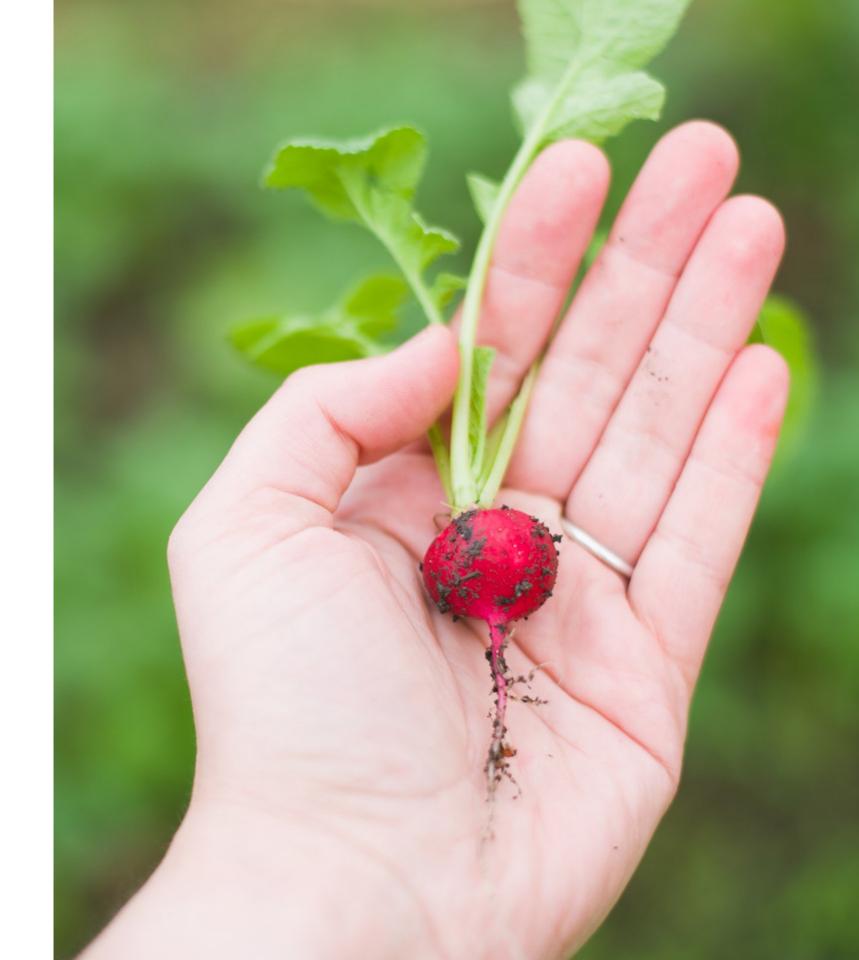


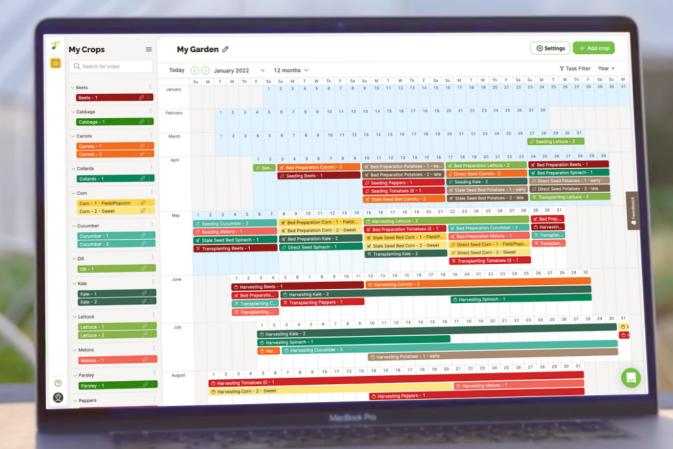


# **OUR PERPETUAL HARVEST HACK**

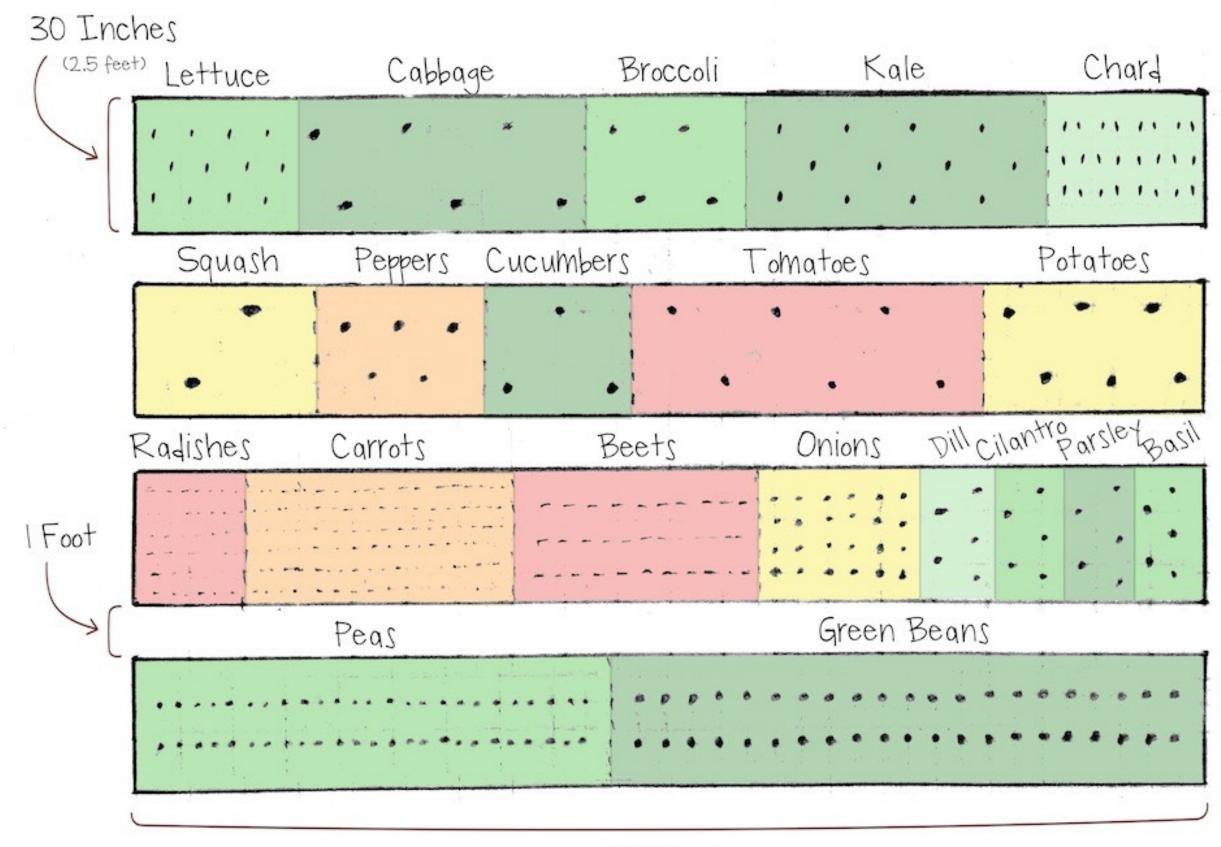
#### THE SIMPLE WAY

- 1. Gardening is full of decisions
- 2. The simple art of knowing:
  - 1. What to do (PLAN)
  - 2. How to do it (ACTION)
  - 3. And doing it at the right time (TIMING)
- 3. Power of the "Perpetual Harvest Hack"





#### **SEEDTIME**



<sup>20</sup> Feet