

10 Great Productive (and easy to grow) plants for the Darwin Wet season

Plant	Botanical name	Type of plant	Part Eaten	How to grow	How to grow more	Comment
Basil	<i>Ocimum basilicum</i>	A herb- Annual/ perennial	Leaves- great	Basil is easily grown in the wet and does amazingly well in the wet season. A sunny well drained spot is best	Seed germinates really easily. Direct sow or into pots	Basil comes in sweet, thai and lemon varieties. Sweet is best for pesto.
Chilies	Capsicum sp.	A small shrub Perennial	Fruits- hot stuff to add to dishes for a bit of fire	Chilies can be grown all year round, in the full sun, in a free draining place.. They can be planted into a raised beds, ground level bed or planter boxes. Fertilize with organic fertiliser once a month, or more in the wet season	Grown from seed, best in seed trays or pots in a protected place Plant these seeds at least 800cm apart directly into the ground	These can be planted all year round, avoid planting in the build up
Garlic Chives	<i>Allium tuberosum</i>	A small Herb	Long round leaves	Garlic chives can be grown by seed and love sunshine or part shade, wet and good fertiliser- they do especially well in wet ground.	From seed, best planted in seed trays first.	They will keep growing all year
Eggplant	<i>Solanum melongena</i>	A small shrub Perennial	Fruits- cooked in pasta, curries and so much more	Eggplant can be grown all year in full sun. They are tolerant of the humidity and do well in the wet season. Fertilize every month.	Easier to grow from seedling than seed-available from Rapid Creek market/nurseries. Seed is possible- grow in pots then plant out.	Eggplants grow really well in the wet season. There are many varieties to choose from.
Kang Kong	<i>Ipomoea aquatica</i>	A water green	Leaves- great steamed or stir fried	This is a water plant best grown in the wet season, in a bath or basin of growing medium. Line this with rocks, add fertiliser.	This is very easily grown from cuttings	Best grown in the wet season

Okra	<i>Abelmoschus esculentus</i>	Small shrub	Young fruit	Okra is an especially good wet season plant		The fruits grow very fast
Sweet leaf	<i>Sauropus androgynus</i>	A herb/ small shrub	Leaves- great in salads	This shrubby herb grows very easily in the wet season and can be used as a hedge	The best way to grow this is from stem cuttings. Put in a jar of water first!	
Snake bean	<i>Vigna unguiculata</i> <u>subsp. sesquipedalis</u>	A climbing bean	Great in salads/ stir fries/ stews – anything that needs a tasty bean	Snake bean is easily grown all year round, in the full sun, in a free draining place. It needs a trellis to climb up and will produce beans after at least 30 days of growth. Fertilise with organic fertiliser occasionally	Easily grown from seed, collected from dried older snake beans Plant these seeds at least 80cm apart directly into the ground or grow in small pots until sprouted.	These can be planted all year round, better planted outside of the build up
Sweet Potato	<i>Ipomoea batatas</i>	A Ground cover plant with nodes	The root (and young leaves)	Sweet potato needs loose rich soil and full sun. It will take up quite a lot of space and is great in raised beds or contained areas.	Easily grown from cuttings and old sweet potatoes (with nodes)	It can take over your garden!
Wing Bean	<i>Psophocarpus tetragonolobus</i>	A climbing Bean	The young fruit	Wing bean is easily grown all year round, in the full sun, in a free draining place. It needs a trellis to climb up and will produce beans sporadically throughout the year. Fertilise with organic fertiliser occasionally	Grown from seed easily. To harvest seed- wait till beans get old and dry.	Get the beans quick, while they are young.

Perennial- Grows all year and does not die off

Annual- Grows for a certain time and needs to be replanted each year