**Mexican Marigold:** used as decoration for altars during Dia de Muertos and are said to attract the souls of the dead. Medicinally, the leaves can be used for reducing inflammation and improving skin health. **Best time to plant:** Spring/Summer.

**Green Onion/Chive:** An effective antioxidant and anti-histamine commonly used as a traditional cold treatment by chewing on the stems. **Best time to plant:** October to December.

**Rosemary:** This herb is used for limpias, or spiritual cleansings. It has also been known to enhance memory and boost the body's immune system. **Best time to plant:** Perennial but Spring/Summer with full sun.

**Mint:** Known for its fresh, sweet aroma. In Spanish, mint is referred to as Yerba Buena or "good herb". It contains a high amount of iron and vitamin A. **Best time to plant:** During the fall or full sun.

**Lavender:** Used in aromatherapy and to cure ailments. This common herb is useful as an antiseptic, an antibacterial and an effective insect repellent. **Best time to plant:** July to Oct. Peak bloom time: early to late Summer.

**Jalapeño:** Named after the city of Xalapa, Veracruz where it was originally produced. Jalapeños are high in vitamin C and A, and Potassium. **Best time to plant:** mid-March to mid-July.

**Cilantro:** Used in traditional medicine for hundreds of years. It is an excellent source of dietary fiber and also contains Vitamin A, C, and E. **Best time to plant:** Late Spring.

**Lemongrass:** Also known as "citronella grass." This herb has a floral, lemony aroma that is used in herbal teas and aromatherapy. **Best time to plant:** Spring.

**Kale:** This superfood contains anti-oxidants that help lower blood pressure and reduce inflammation. **Best time to plant:** Early Spring or Fall.

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**Eggplant:** The name refers to how certain varieties of eggplant resemble white eggs. Eggplant is an excellent source of fiber and antioxidants. **Best time to plant:** late April to early May. Peak Bloom time: Summer.

**Mexican Petunia:** This perennial plant grows well in dry or desert climates. It is invasive, as it can easily spread if left unkept. **Best time to plant:** Early Spring.

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At the ESB-MACC Healing Garden we grow herbs, fruits and vegetables that can be used for everyday meals and health. If you are interested in gardening or sharing in our harvest, join us for one of our workdays.

Volunteers work hands-on maintaining the garden and its infrastructure. Please dress comfortably and appropriately for the weather. Contact us at 512.974.3773 or maccgarden@austintexas.gov. For more information, visit: austintexas.gov/esbmacc