

Cantonese vegetable literal character meanings

Source: <http://www.cantonese.sheik.co.uk/>

aubergine

矮 *ai2* - short (height)

瓜 *gwaa1* - gourd; melon

aubergine

茄 *ke2 ke1 gaa1* - tomato; eggplant; excrement

子 *zi2* - son; person; egg; young; subsidiary

avocado

牛 *ngau4* - cow; ox; cattle

油 *jau4* - oil; fat; grease; petroleum

果 *gwo2* - fruit

bell pepper

燈 *dang1* - light, lamp

籠 *lung4 lung5* - cage; bamboo steamer; envelop; large box

椒 *ziu1* - hot spice plant

broccoli

西 *sai1* - west

蘭 *laan4* - orchid; elegant, graceful

花 *faa1* - flower

carrot

紅 *hung4 gung1* - red; successful; revolutionary; bonus

蘿 *lo4* - trailing plants

蔔 *baak6* - radish; turnip

celery

西 *sai1* - west

芹 *kan4* - celery

西芹菜 - celery

corn

粟 *suk1* - grain; millet

米 *mai5* - uncooked rice

courgette

意 *ji3* - wish; meaning; expect

大 *daai6* - big

利 *lei6, lai6* - profit; gains; benefit; serve

青 *ceng1 cing1* - green; young

瓜 *gwaa1* - gourd; melon

cucumber

青 *ceng1 cing1* - green; young

瓜 *gwaa1* - gourd; melon

garlic

蒜 *syun3* - garlic

頭 *tau4* - head; first; chief

lettuce

生 *saang1 sang1* - born; grow; life; alive; unripe

菜 *coi3* - vegetables; dish

mushroom

蘑 *mo4* - mushroom

菇 *gu1* - mushrooms; fungus

okra

秋 *cau1* - autumn

葵 *kwai4* - certain big flowering plants

onion

洋 *joeng4* - ocean; foreign; Western; vast

蔥 *cung1* - green onion; scallion

peas

青 *ceng1 cing1* - green; young

豆 *dau6 dau6*2* - beans; peas

potato

薯 *syu4* - potato; yam; tuber

仔 *zai2 zi2* - son; child

pumpkin

南 *naam4* - south

瓜 *gwaa1* - gourd; melon

spinach

菠 *bo1* - spinach

菜 *coi3* - vegetables; dish

tomato

番 *faan1 pun1* - foreign; times; back; again

茄 *ke2 ke1 gaa1* - tomato; eggplant; excrement