

Capsicum Annuum

©Howard L. Kaplan 1989

In sea shantey style: alternating solo and chorus

In the chill of Jan - u - a - ry Cap - si - cum an - nu - um

Cat-a-logs the post-men car-ry Pro-mise sweet red pep - pers

In the chill of January,
Capsicum annuum
Catalogs the postmen carry
Promise sweet red peppers

Through the February muck,
Seeds brought by a parcel truck

Sheltered from the mid-March chill,
Seed trays on a window sill

Sheltered from the April rains,
Seedlings bent towards window panes

By our late May sweat and toil,
Plants set in the garden soil

Fighting June's voracious bugs,
Plants surviving rot and slugs

Moistened by July's warm showers,
Buds that turn to small white flowers

When mid August hints of fall,
Fruits that still are green and small

In the cool September mist,
Fruits big as a gardener's fist

When October ends all growing,
Baskets filled to overflowing

When November winds blow raw,
Packages set out to thaw

At December's Christmas snow,
Relish jars that gleam and glow

In the chill of January,
Catalogs the postmen carry