Crisscross Crunch

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This puzzle suffers a tight squeeze. The answer words read straight across or straight down, but they overlap by one, two, three, or four letters. For example, the answer "battLE" might overlap the answer "LEgs" by two letters and be entered as "BATTLEGS." The clues for Across and Down are in **alphabetical order** according to answers, and the word lengths are in parentheses. We've placed some letters to get you started.

В		R				
					Ν	G
			A	S		
					S	
	R	I				

ACROSS

Back street (5) November box stuffer (6) Temperature scale (7) Female Laureate (5) Fragrant compound (5) Watching closely (5) Tons o' (also slang, 5) Sweet (4) Salad ingredient (5) Beginning (5) Get rash with fright (5) Bucolic (5) Hair care center (5) _____ cotta (5) TV gas (5)

DOWN

Beef breed (5) Reef material (5) Colorants (4) They're passed on (7) The big May race (4) Hamlet slayer (7) Molten rock (4) Sass, informally (3) Nasty (4) Space cloud (6) Not fancy (5) Loses a taste for (5) Exam (4) Worth (5) Stringed instrument (5)

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