



Sustainable
Landscape Solutions

Customer Information

Planting Guide for North Florida Culinary Herbs

Crop Seed (S:) Transplant (T:)	Planting Time Outdoors ¹	Ht. (")	Heat Tol. ²	Min. Temp °F ³	Sun Needs	Water Needs ⁴	Plants per sq. ft. ⁵	Spacing in rows	Seed Depth ⁶ (in.) or vegetative	Plant Family ⁷
Afr. Blue Basil (Ocimum hybrid)	T: Mar 15 thru Oct	36-48"	✓	30°	3-8 hours	Aver.	1	24"	Cutting only	Lamiaceae
Basil (Ocimum spp.)	T: Late Mar thru Sep/Oct S: Late Mar thru Aug	12-36"	✓	35° Injury under 50°	Full Sun (8+)	Moist	4	8-12"	1/4"	Lamiaceae
Bay Laurel (Laurus nobilis)	T: Mar 15 thru Nov S: Mar 15 thru May	15-20'	✓	10° Injury at 28°	6-8 hours	Drier	1 per 4 sq. ft.	3'	1/4 to 1/2"	Lauraceae
Borage (Borago officinalis)	T: Mar 15 S: Early Mar	24-36"		32°	6-8 hours	Drier	1 to 4	6-12"	1/4 to 1/2"	Boraginaceae
German Chamomile (Matricaria recutita)	T: Mar 15 S: Early/Mid Feb	24-36"		14° Injury at 20°	6-8 hours	Drier	4	6-8"	Surface	Asteraceae
Chervil (Anthriscus cerefolium)	S: Early/Mid Feb, Oct 1	12-18"		-40° Die back at 25°	4-6 hours	Moist	4	6-12"	1/8"	Apiaceae
Chives (Allium schoenoprasum)	T: Almost year round S: Early Feb thru Early Oct	12-20"	Fair (To 85°)	-40° Die back at 0°	6-8 hours	Aver. To Moist	9	8"	1/4"	Alliaceae
Cilantro (Coriandrum sativum)	T: Mar 15 S: Early Nov thru Early Mar	12-20"		15°	6-8 hours	Moist	1-4	8"	1/4 to 1/2"	Apiaceae

Cuban Oregano (Plectranthus amboinicus)	T,S: Mar 15 to Sep	18-24"	✓	25°	4-8 hours	Aver.	1	15-18"	Surface Cutting Divis.	Lamiaceae
Culantro (Eryngium foetidum)	T,S: Late Mar to Sep	6-10"	✓	35°	3-8 hours	Moist	4-9	4-6"	Surface to 1/8"	Apiaceae
Dill (Anethum graveolens)	T: Mar 15 S: Early Mar-May, Sep-Nov	12-30"		25°	Full Sun (8+)	Moist	1-4	12"	1/4"	Apiaceae
Fennel (Foeniculum vulgare)	T: Mar 15, Early Oct S: Early Apr, Early Aug	24-36"	✓	-30° Injury at mid 20°'s	Full Sun (8+)	Aver.	1-4	10-12"	1/4 to 1/2"	Apiaceae
Lavender – Phenomenal (Lavandula x intermedia)	T: Mar 15 to Early Oct S: Mar 15 to Early Sep	24-30"	✓	-20°	Full Sun (8+)	Drier	1	24"	1/4" or Cutting	Lamiaceae
Lavender – Span. (Lavandula stoechas)	T: Mar 15 to Early Oct S: Mar 15 to Early Sep	24"	✓	0°	Full Sun (8+)	Drier	1	24"	1/4" or Cutting	Lamiaceae
Lemon Balm (Melissa officinalis)	T: Mar 15 to Early Oct S: Late Mar to Early Oct	24-36"	✓	-30°	6-8 hours	Moist	1	12-18"	1/8" or Cutting	Lamiaceae
Lemon Grass (Cymbopogon citratus)	T,S: Mar 15 thru summer	48"	✓	30°	6-8 hours	Moist	1 per 2 sq. ft.	3'	1/4"	Poaceae
Lemon Verbena (Aloysia citriodora)	T,S: Late Mar thru summer	36-72"	✓	20° Leaf drop below 40°	6-8 hours	Aver. To Drier	1	12-18"	Cutting (Few viable seeds)	Verbenaceae
Lovage (Levisticum officinale)	T,S: Late Mar, Sep-Oct	36-48"		-40°	6-8 hours	Aver.	1	8-12"	Surface	Apiaceae
Marjoram, Sweet (Origanum majorana)	T: Mar 15 S: Early Mar	12-24"		20°	Full Sun (8+)	Drier	4	6"	1/4"	Lamiaceae
Mex. Tarragon (Tagetes lucida)	T,S: Mar 15 though summer	24-36"	✓	10°	6-8 hours	Aver.	1	18-24"	1/4"	Asteraceae

Mint (<i>Mentha</i> spp.)	T: Mar 15 to Early Oct S: Mar 15 to Mid Sep	12-32"	✓ Var	-30° Var	3-8 hours	Moist	1	12-18"	Surface Cutting Divis.	Lamiaceae
Nasturtium (<i>Trapaolum majus</i>)	S: Feb and Sep	6-16"		32°	6-8 hours	Aver.	1	12" climbs	1/2 to 1"	Tropaeolaceae
Oregano (<i>Origanum vulgare</i>)	T: Apr to Oct S: Feb-fall	6-24"		-20°	6-8 hours	Drier	4	8-10"	1/8" or Cutting	Lamiaceae
Parsley (<i>Petroselinum crispum</i>)	T: Mar 15 S: Early Feb, Sep	18"		-30° Die back at 15°	6-8 hours, Less in heat	Moist	1-4	6"	1/4"	Apiaceae
Pineapple Sage (<i>Salvia elegans</i>)	T,S: Mar 15	3-5'		10°	6-8 hours	Aver.	1	24"	1/8" or Cutting	Lamiaceae
Purslane (<i>Portulaca oleracea</i>)	T,S: Late Mar/Apr through summer	4-8"	✓	30°	Full Sun (8+)	Drier	9	4-8"	1/4"	Portulacaceae
Roselle (<i>Hibiscus sabdariffa</i>)	T,S: Mar 15 thru summer	4-7'	✓	20°	Full Sun (8+)	Aver.	1 per 2 sq. ft.	3'	1/4 to 1/2" or Cutting	Malvaceae
Rosemary (<i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i>)	T: Almost year round S: Late Mar - Sep	6-72"	✓	10°	Full Sun (8+)	Drier	1	12"	Surface or Cutting	Lamiaceae
Sage (<i>Salvia officinalis</i>)	T: Mar 15 - spring, Sep S: Late Mar, Sep	18-30"		-20° Var	Full Sun (8+)	Drier	1, or 1 per 2 sq. ft.	18"	Cutting or 1/4"	Lamiaceae
Salad Burnet (<i>Sanguisorba minor</i>)	T,S: Mar 15 thru spring, Sep-Oct	12-20"		-30° Die back at 0°	6-8 hours	Aver.	1-4	12"	1/8" or Divis.	Rosaceae
Savory - Summer (<i>Satureja hortensis</i>)	T,S: Late Mar thru spring	12-18"		32°	Full Sun (8+)	Aver. To Moist	9	6-12"	Surface	Lamiaceae
Savory - Winter (<i>Satureja montana</i>)	T,S: Late Mar thru spring, Mid Sep	6-12"		-10°	6-8 hours	Aver. To Drier	1-4	8"	Surface	Lamiaceae
Sorrel (<i>Rumex acetosa</i>)	T: Mar 15 through spring, fall S: Early Mar, Oct	18-24"		-40° Die back at 15°	6-8 hours	Aver.	4-9	8"	1/8"	Polygonaceae

Stevia (Stevia rebaudiana)	T,S: Mar 15 thru summer	16-30"	✓	25°	Mid Day Shade	Moist	1	18-20"	Surface or Cutting	Asteraceae
Tarragon (Artemisia dracunculus)	T: Mid Mar thru spring	12-48"		-20°	Mid Day Shade	Drier	1	12-24"	Cutting or Div. only	Asteraceae
Thyme (Thymus spp.)	T,S: Late Mar thru spring, Early Oct	2-15"		-20° (Var)	6-8 hours	Drier	4	10"	1/8" or Cutting	Lamiaceae

North Florida is all of Florida north of State Road 40. We are in USDA Hardiness Zone 9 (minimum expected winter temperature of 20°), and AHS Heat Zone 8 (91-120 days > 86°).

Plants in brown are annuals or biennials.

¹ Planting Time Outdoors is for transplants/plants (T) or seeds (S). Timing assumes that the average last frost date for the year is Mar 15 and average first frost date is Dec 3.

² Heat Tolerant - able to grow in North Florida summer temperatures and humidity.

³ Min. Temp F° - the minimum temperature a plant can experience and survive. Damage, die back (plants resprout in the spring) and reduced harvest for the season may occur at warmer temperatures. Variations can be caused by several factors such as age of plant, length of cold, root establishment and type of cultivar.

⁴ Water needs - as with all plantings, this is the moisture recommendation after establishment.

⁵ Square Foot Gardening technique.

⁶ Although the seeds of most plants don't need light to germinate, those of many of the herbs do. When an entry lists "Surface", the seeds are to be scattered on potting soil in a container or on prepared garden soil, and lightly pressed against the soil (good contact improves moisture retention). If outdoors, they should be lightly dusted with a very fine cover of soil or vermiculite to protect the seed. Indoors, no cover is needed. The goal is to shield the seed from drying out but allow exposure to light. Use a fine mist spray to keep moist until germination.

If only a vegetative option is listed, either seed may not be produced, is sterile or has very low viability, seed produced plants wouldn't have desired qualities of the parent, or vegetative propagation is much easier.

⁷ Rotate plant families. Avoid successively planting herbs from the same family in the same area of the garden.

Although often available as plants, culantro, nasturtium, parsley, dill, borage, cilantro, chervil, and fennel are more typically grown from seed because they can be difficult to transplant. If not grown in a biodegradable pot, use care when transplanting these.

How to fertilize: In general, herbs should be fertilized moderately to avoid stimulating lush growth that is less flavorful. Fertilize at half recommended amount when you do fertilize, if herbs are in garden soil. Container grown plants may need more fertilizer.