



**CORNELL
COOPERATIVE
EXTENSION OF
ONEIDA COUNTY**

HOME GROWN FACTS

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GROWING ARUGULA



This fast-growing cool-season salad green - often ready to harvest as early as 4 weeks after seeding - adds a tangy, peppery or mustard-like flavor to salads and mesclun mixes.

Site Characteristics

Sunlight:

- full sun
- part shade

Soil conditions:

- tolerates low fertility

Prefers rich humusy soil with pH of 6 to 6.8, but will tolerate wide variety of conditions. Evenly moist soil will help slow bolting.

Special locations:

- outdoor containers

Plant Traits

Lifecycle: annual

Ease-of-care: easy

Height: 1 to 2 feet

Growth is low and compact until heat causes plant to bolt.

Spread: 0.5 to 1 feet

Bloom time:

- late spring
- early summer
- mid-summer
- late summer

Flower color: white

Foliage color: medium green

Foliage texture: medium

Shape:

- cushion, mound or clump
- upright

Forms a rosette of deeply lobed leaves. Plants become erect when heat induces bolting.

Shape in flower: flower stalks with sprays of flowers

Flowers are edible.

Helping You Put Knowledge to Work

Cornell Cooperative Extension provides equal program and employment opportunities. NYS College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, NYS College of Human Ecology, and NYS College of Veterinary Medicine at Cornell University, Cooperative Extension associations, county governing bodies, and U.S. Department of Agriculture, cooperating.

Tolerates:

- Frost

Growing Information

How to plant:

Propagate by seed

Germination temperature: 40 F to 55 F

Days to emergence: 5 to 7

Seed can be saved 5 years.

Maintenance and care:

Seeds germinate quickly even in cold soil. Plant as soon as soil can be worked in spring.

Avoid planting after other cabbage family crops.

Plant ¼ inch deep and 1 inch apart in rows, or broadcast alone or mixed with other greens. Gradually thin to 6-inch spacings using thinnings for salads.

Make new plantings every 2 to 3 weeks for a continuous supply until about a month before your average first frost date.

Slow bolting by reducing heat and moisture stress. Provide some shade for warm-season plantings.

Fast-growing plants are good for intercropping and relay cropping.

Often self-seeds. Is self-sterile and requires insects for pollination. Will not cross with other members of the mustard family.

Pests:

Flea beetles

Diseases:

Rarely a problem.

Varieties

‘Sylvetta’ is actually a different species, *Diplotaxis tenuifolia*. It is slower growing, half as tall, and slower to bolt, and has smaller, more deeply lobed leaves, yellow flowers and more pungent taste.

This publication may contain pesticide recommendations. Changes in pesticide regulations occur constantly, some materials mentioned may no longer be available, and some uses may no longer be legal. All pesticides distributed, sold, and/or applied in New York State must be registered with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). Questions concerning the legality and/or registration status for pesticide use in New York State should be directed to the appropriate Cornell Cooperative Extension Specialist or your regional DEC office. **READ THE LABEL BEFORE APPLYING ANY PESTICIDE.**