

Amaranthus gangeticus

Molten Fire

Ease of Growing: Easy Grown as Annual

Days to Maturity: 30-50 (Spring/Summer)

Growing Habit-Hardiness: Tender (annual)

Amaranth grows best in hot weather and doesn't do well if it's cold.

Crops: Summer Growing Season

Amaranth is a tropical plant that uses C4 photosynthesis (like corn and sunflower), which makes it particularly efficient in high heat and light intensities.

Plant Amaranth in a warm sheltered spot with full sun.

Outdoor Growing Temp 60°F - 95°F Min Outdoor Soil Temp 50°F

Amaranth is a tropical plant so it likes warm soil.

Propagation : Seeds may be started indoors at a 70- to 75-degree temperature, in pots or flats filled with finely sifted compost made of two-thirds sandy loam and one-third leaf mold. When the baby plants are an inch or so high, they may be planted separately in 3-inch pots using the same soil mixture as used above, though it should be passed through a coarse sieve. Seeds may also be sown directly outside as soon as it is warm enough to sow

Water Moderate

Amaranth is relatively drought tolerant and too much water may cause the roots to rot. However for maximum production of both leaf and seed the soil should never be allowed to dry out.

Feeder Moderate

Amaranth grows fast and produces a lot of nutrition, so it's not surprising that it is a fairly hungry plant. It does best on a well-drained and fertile soil, similar to that for corn. If growing for seed, it will require more fertilizer than if you're growing it for leaves.

Pest : Aphids

Fungi : Leaf Spots

Prevention and Control: Remove infected leaves when the plant is dry. Leaves that collect around the base of the plant should be raked up and disposed of. Avoid overhead irrigation if possible; water should be directed at soil level. For fungal leaf spots, use a recommended fungicide according to label directions.

Taste Profile

Younger leaves have a milder flavor and are good to use in salads. Mature leaves have a flavor similar to spinach. Use amaranth as a substitute for spinach in recipes.

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<http://www.growyoursecretgarden.com/amaranthus-molten-fire-seeds--strikingcrimson-colour-1336-p.asp>

