



Borage Planting Guide

About Borage

Similar in taste to certain types of cucumber, borage is a tasty culinary herb that is widely used in Europe and increasingly popular in the United States. Borage also produces very attractive edible flowers.

When to Plant

Direct sow borage seeds outdoors after the danger of frost has passed and the soil has warmed.

Where to Plant

Borage seeds prefer fine, well-worked and moist soil in full sun conditions. However, it can tolerate partial shade. Borage prefers a soil pH of 6.0 to 7.0.

How to Plant

Add aged compost to the planting bed and turn it under to 12" before planting. Sow seed about 1/8" into the soil. The seed must be covered for germination to take place. Space your rows about 24" apart. Germination will occur after 7-14 days. Thin seedlings about 24" apart once they are 6-8" tall. Borage requires even, regular water until established. Once established, the soil can dry out between waterings. Fertilize with compost tea and pinch back plants when they reach 6" tall to encourage bushiness and blooming. Tall plants may require staking or support.

Caring for Borage

Borage is considered to be a liberal self-sower, dropping its own herb seeds, so you can enjoy more plants in the following year! To harvest, snip fresh, young leaves in spring and summer as needed. Harvest young leaves before they develop bristly hairs. Flowers can be snipped individually or in clusters as soon as they open.