

# LEMONGRASS

## *CYMBOPOGON CITRATUS*

### PLANT CHARACTERISTICS

 Size

2 - 4' high, 2 - 3' wide

 Sun/Shade

Full Sun

 Water

Medium

 Maintenance

Medium

 Life Span

Annual, Perennial in Zones 10-11

 Description

*Cymbopogon citratus*, also known as Lemongrass is a favorite lemon flavoring in Southeastern Asian cuisine. It is an annual in the Virginia climate but is winter hardy in Zones 10 and 11. It is an ornamental grass with graceful drooping leaves that rarely flowers. It is hard to obtain seeds for Lemongrass and is mostly grown from nursery starts in our area. Planting outdoors should be done after the last frost. Plants can be wintered over in pots in a sunny window by potting a 6" leaf section with roots. These winterized plants can be used as starts for the following season. In addition to cooking, Lemongrass is an attractive addition to gardens as well as indoor plantings. Its oils are also used in herbal medicines and perfumes. Lemongrass has no serious insect or disease problems but spider mites can be major pests from indoor pots.

Source: [Missouri Botanical Garden](https://www.missouri.edu/~g3023/lemongrass.html)



Have questions or need help?  
Contact us at [GreenHelpLine@gmail.com](mailto:GreenHelpLine@gmail.com).

