Cinnamon Basil

Ocimum basilicum 'Cinnamon'

Height: 24 inches

Spread: 24 inches

Spacing: 18 inches

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Description:

A culinary variety with an amazing, spicy cinnamon aroma and flavor; dark green, shiny leaves with burgundy veins and small pink flowers on dark purple spikes in summer; great for mixed containers, herb gardens, and annual beds



Cinnamon Basil flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Cinnamon Basil
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Edible Qualities

Cinnamon Basil is an annual herb that is typically grown for its edible qualities, although it does have ornamental merits as well. The fragrant pointy green leaves with distinctive burgundy veins are usually harvested from early summer to early fall. The leaves have a zesty taste and a pleasant fragrance.

The leaves are most often used in the following ways:

- Fresh Eating
- Cooking
- Seasoning

Planting & Growing

Cinnamon Basil will grow to be about 20 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 24 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 18 inches apart. This fast-growing annual will normally live for one full growing season, needing replacement the following year.

This plant is quite ornamental as well as edible, and is as much at home in a landscape or flower garden as it is in a designated herb garden. It should only be grown in full sunlight. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America. It can be propagated by cuttings; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

Cinnamon Basil is a good choice for the edible garden, but it is also well-suited for use in outdoor pots and containers. It can be used either as 'filler' or as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination, depending on the height and form of the other plants used in the container planting. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.