Ailsa Craig Onion

Allium cepa 'Ailsa Craig'



Ailsa Craig Onion fruit
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 20 inches

Spread: 8 inches

Spacing: 6 inches

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Description:

With its sweet, mild flavor, this variety is an exceptional addition to any garden; large, globe shaped blubs with straw colored skin; firm and mild sweet flesh, perfect for adding to salads, sandwiches or burgers; an easy to grow long day selection

Edible Qualities

Ailsa Craig Onion is an annual vegetable plant that is commonly grown for its edible qualities. The entire above-ground parts of the plant are edible, and are typically harvested when mature. The edible parts have a sweet taste and a juicy texture.

The plant is most often used in the following ways:

- Fresh Eating
- Eating When Cooked/Prepared
- Cooking
- Pickling
- Canning
- Sauces

Planting & Growing

Ailsa Craig Onion will grow to be about 20 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 8 inches. When planted in rows, individual plants should be spaced approximately 6 inches apart. This vegetable plant is an annual, which means that it will grow for one season in your garden and then die after producing a crop. As this plant tends to go dormant in summer, it is best interplanted with late-season bloomers to hide the dying foliage.

This plant is typically grown in a designated vegetable garden. It should only be grown in full sunlight. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America, and it is considered by many to be an heirloom variety. It can be propagated by multiplication of the underground bulbs; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

Ailsa Craig Onion is a good choice for the vegetable 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.