Kirby Cucumber

Cucumis sativus 'Kirby'



Kirby Cucumber fruit
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 10 inches

Spread: 5 feet

Spacing: 12 inches

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Description:

An early maturing and vigorous variety that produces high yields of pale to dark green cucumbers; best when harvested around 3-6" in length; firm and bumpy skin with solid and crisp interiors; ideal for pickling, snacking or adding to salads

Edible Qualities

Kirby Cucumber is an annual vegetable plant that is typically grown for its edible qualities. It produces small light green long cucumbers (which are technically 'berries') with dark green overtones and light green flesh which can be harvested at any point. The cucumbers have a delicious taste and a crisp texture.

The cucumbers are most often used in the following ways:

- Fresh Eating
- Eating When Cooked/Prepared
- Preserves
- Pickling
- Canning

Planting & Growing

Kirby Cucumber will grow to be about 10 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 5 feet. When planted in rows, individual plants should be spaced approximately 12 inches apart. This fast-growing vegetable plant is an annual, which means that it will grow for one season in your garden and then die after producing a crop.

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. This plant is a heavy feeder that requires frequent fertilizing throughout the growing season to perform at its best. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in rich soils. It is quite intolerant of urban pollution, therefore inner city or urban streetside plantings are best avoided. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone over the growing season to conserve soil moisture. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America, and it is considered by many to be an heirloom variety.

Kirby Cucumber is a good choice for the vegetable garden, but it is also well-suited for use in outdoor pots and containers. It is often used as a 'filler' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination, providing the canvas against which the larger thriller plants stand out. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.