

Mustard Greens

Growing and Harvest Information

Mustard greens are fast growing, cool weather crops. Start seeds outdoors 3 weeks before your last frost date. Plant each seed just under the soil about a half inch apart in an area with plenty of sun.

Look for leaves with green color; avoid yellowing, blemishes, withering, or wilting. Stems should be freshly cut; avoid thick, dried out, browned, or split.

For Salads: Snip young leaves.

For Stir-Fries: Snip leaves when 6" or longer.

Keep snipping. Eventually, plants will flower (with edible buds) and go to seed, then flavor gets stronger.

Introduction

Mustard greens originated in India's Himalayan region about 5,000 years ago. Many people enjoy the kick they get from this cruciferous vegetable's peppery, strong, bitter, or pungent flavor.

Preservation

Storage:

 Gently wrap unwashed leaves in paper towels and store loosely in plastic bags. Keep moist and cool in lower part of refrigerator in highhumidity bin.

Freezing:

- Wash mustard greens, trim stem ends, and cut into 1-inch pieces or leave whole.
- Prepare ice water bath in large, 5-quart container or sink.
- Blanch, no more than one pound at a time, for 3 minutes. In large pot with tight fitting lid, bring 5 quarts of water to rolling boil. Add mustard greens and immediately cover with tight fitting lid. Remove greens from boiling water with slotted spoon or blanching basket.
- Immerse mustard greens in ice water bath for 5 minutes or until cooled. If no ice, use several changes of cold water or running cold water. Remove from water and drain.
- Pack cold mustard greens in zip-closure freezer bags or freezer containers. Squeeze out as much air as possible before sealing.
- Label and date each container or bag. Immediately place in freezer, allowing 1" space around each container until frozen. Keep frozen at 0 degrees F or below.
- Blanching water can be used over and over again. Add more water, if necessary. Always bring water back to rolling boil before blanching more vegetables.

Nutritional Benefits Use By Guide Vegetable State Source Rating Use by Vitamins **EXCELLENT** Raw 5 days Mineral GOOD 1 year Frozen Fiber GOOD Canned 1 year



Mustard Greens

Fun Fact:

Mustard Greens have
high antioxidant
nutrients, antiinflammatory nutrients,
and the ability to lower
risk of a variety of
cardiovascular risks.

Prepare Arugula Like This:

Boiled
Braised
Microwaved
Pickled
Sauteed
Slow-Cooked
Steamed

Try Arugula In:

Dips

Omelets

Pastas

Salads

Soups

Stews

Stir-Fries

Preparation

Recipe 1: Sautéed Mustard Greens with Garlic and Lemon

Ingredients

- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 4 garlic cloves, thinly sliced
- 3 pounds mustard greens, washed, trimmed, and chopped (about 24 cups)

Directions

- 2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
- 1/4 teaspoon crushed red pepper
- 3/4 teaspoon kosher salt
- 3/4 teaspoon black pepper
- 1. Heat oil in a cooking pot with a tight fitting lid
- 2.Add garlic; cook, stirring often, until garlic is golden brown and crispy (about 1 minute)
- 3.Stir in greens, in batches; cook until wilted (1-2 minutes) before adding more greens
- 4. Cover and cook, stirring occasionally, until tender-crips (10-12 minutes)
- 5. Stir in lemon juice and 1/4 teaspoon crushed red pepper
- 6.Sprinkle with salt and pepper

Recipe 2: Wilted Mustard Greens

Ingredients

- 4lb mustard greens, stems discarded
- 2 large garlic cloves, minced
- 3 tablespoons unsalted butter
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon black pepper

Directions

- 1. Cook mustard greens in 2 batches in a pot of boiling salted water, stirring to submerge, until wilted and tender (5 min)
- 2.Transfer with tongs to a large bowl of cold water
- 3. Drain in a colander and coarsely chop
- 4.Cook garlic in butter in a pot over low heat, stirring until softened (about 2 min)
- 5.Add boiled greens, salt, and pepper and cook, covered, stirring occasionally, until heated through (5 min)