

URBAN FARMER

LOVE THE EARTH

From Seed to Harvest: A beginners guide to growing hyssop

Many beginning gardeners may not be familiar with hyssop, but it is a flowering herb that is commonly grown for its leaves. It blooms in spikes of blue, pink and red flowers, and it attracts pollinators to the garden. It is a great addition to any landscape.

To plant:

Sow the hyssop seeds indoors eight to 10 weeks before the last frost of the season. Plant the seeds about 1/4 inch deep, and they should germinate within 14 to 21 days. Transplant the seedlings into the garden after the last frost and space the plants about 6 to 12 inches apart. In the fall, you can also plant new plants from root divisions.

To grow:

Hyssop needs to be pruned, so if you have a well-established plant, trim it back in the early spring. Make sure to trim it back heavily. Prune the plants again after they flower, because this helps them not become spindly. Regular pruning also helps the plants be bushier in appearance. The hyssop plants will attract butterflies and hummingbirds to your garden. Hyssop grows best in full sun or partial shade, and it prefers well-drained soil. Hyssop is not only a great addition to the garden, but it also can be grown in containers, window boxes or in rock gardens. Hyssop typically doesn't have any pest problems and it actually repels some pests like flea beetles and cabbage moths. Hyssop can be grown as a companion plant to cauliflower, cabbage or grapes.

To harvest:

Hyssop will reach its maturity in 75 to 85



[Hyssop seeds available at ufseeds.com](http://ufseeds.com)

days from planting. Hyssop is best used fresh if you are using it in the kitchen, but it can also be dried or frozen for later use. When harvesting, cut the hyssop plant in the morning once the dew has dried. Then, hang the plant upside down in a dark and well-ventilated area. In addition to being used as an herb, the hyssop leaves can be used in salads, soups and other meals. You also can harvest hyssop seeds to plant in future seasons by waiting for the seed capsules to dry completely and then separating the seeds from the capsules by hand.

What hyssop craves:

Prior to transplanting the seedlings to the garden or direct sowing, amend the soil with compost or organic material like aged animal manure. Add a light application to the planting hole as well.

Where to buy hyssop seeds:

You can find hyssop seeds at ufseeds.com!



100%
Non-GMO Seed



One Day
Shipping



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