

URBAN FARMER

LOVE THE EARTH

From Seed to Harvest: A beginner's guide to growing husk cherries

Husk cherries, also known as ground cherries, are similar in shape and size to a cherry tomato, but the fruit is covered by a thin, papery husk. The husk cherry has a taste referred to as sweet and tropical like a pineapple with an underlying tomato taste. Husk cherries are produced on small shrubs.

To plant:

Husk cherries can be grown in a garden, a raised bed or a container. Start the seeds indoors six to eight weeks before the last frost date. Seeds may be slow to sprout, but once their growth begins it remains steady throughout the season.

To grow:

When you transplant, plant seedlings 18 to 24 inches apart. The plants don't grow very tall, so staking is unnecessary, but tomato cages can be used to prevent sprawling. Husk cherries like full sun and 1 inch of water per week.

To harvest:

Similar to tomatillos, husk cherries are ready to harvest when their husk changes colors from green to papery white. The cherries are very easy to pick at this stage. If a heavy fall frost will hit, harvest the cherries even if their husks have not ripened. The cherries can after ripen indoors, like tomatoes. When harvested, the cherries can be eaten fresh or added to recipes like salsas.

What husk cherries crave:

Husk cherries are a low maintenance vegetable, but gardeners can add an all-purpose fertilizer when the plant is first established and also when the plant begins to grow blooms.



[Goldie Husk Cherry seeds available at ufseeds.com](http://ufseeds.com)

Where to buy husk cherry seeds:

Check out Urban Farmer to buy husk cherry seeds at ufseeds.com!



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