

Mexican Tarragon

Tagetes lucida

With a flavor similar to traditional French tarragon, but a better tolerance for drought, heat, and humidity, Mexican tarragon is a winner in the southern herb garden. Mexican tarragon, also called mint marigold or Mexican marigold, is beautiful in herb gardens or mixed in with annual and perennial plants. Used as an annual in cooler climates, Florida gardeners are lucky enough to enjoy Mexican tarragon year-round. Mexican tarragon is drought tolerant once established but it will grow best with occasional irrigation. A hard freeze will kill it to the ground but the plant usually recovers in the spring.

Type: perennial herb

USDA hardiness zones: 8 through 11

Uses: herb garden; border; container

Origin: not native to Florida

Height: 6 to 30 inches **Spread:** 6 to 18 inches

Plant spacing: 12 to 36 inches

Light requirement: full sun

Soil tolerances: acid to alkaline; clay; sand; loam

Drought tolerance: good

Soil salt tolerances: low

Invasive potential: low

Pest resistance: Slugs and snails can be a problem, especially for seedlings; Botrytis is an occasional disease problem

**MORE
INFORMATION**



Photo: UF/IFAS