

Parsley

Petroselinum crispum

Parsley is a versatile herb that looks good growing and tastes good too. It is a popular garden vegetable nationwide and is grown throughout Florida. There are three common varieties of parsley -- flat leaf, curly leaf and parsley root -- with numerous cultivated varieties suitable for both ornamental and culinary purposes. It is also a host plant for caterpillars of the black swallowtail butterfly. Only a few parsley plants are needed for most families, and these may be grown in containers for limited-space situations. Do not allow soils to dry out. Plants will bloom in the 2nd year by sending up stalks to 2-3' tall bearing greenish-yellow flowers. Unfortunately, leaves lose good flavor in the second year when plants are in flower.

Type: biennial herb; grown as an annual

USDA hardiness zones: 8 through 11

Uses: herb; garnish; butterfly garden

Origin: not native to Florida

Height: 8 to 12 inches **Spread:** 8 to 12 inches

Plant spacing: 8 to 12 inches

Light requirement: full sun

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

Drought tolerance: low

Soil salt tolerances: unknown

Invasive potential: low

Pest resistance: no serious pests or diseases

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INFORMATION**



Photo: Italian parsley;
James M. Stephens, UF/IFAS