Published on *Kitchen Gardeners International* (http://kgi.org)

Growing Heirloom Mustard - Southern Giant Curled

Mon, 03/25/2013 - 21:51 -- Miss Lady Bug

Southern Giant Curled Mustard is old heirloom from the Southern US. Even though mustard greens are a staple in the south, they will grow just about anywhere in cool weather.

The frilled leaves have a horseradish-mustard flavor that is enhanced by sweet vinegar. This combo makes the basis for a tasty salad. Or, try cooking a mess the traditional southern way by boiling the greens with salt pork, ham hocks, or bacon. Serve up with some cornbread!

This heirloom is a cool-season crop that prefers fertile, well-drained soil, and full sun. Amend the soil with compost or manure before planting to provide nutrients, and improve drainage. Plant in early spring or, for fall crops, 6 to 8 weeks before first fall frost. In Zones 8 and warmer, sow seeds in the fall for winter use. Plant seeds directly into soil 1/8" deep, about 1" apart, and in rows 15" apart. Keep the soil moist until the seeds germinate. Thin plants to 6-8" apart. Mulch to keep the soil cool and moist.

Mustard greens generally don?t have problems with pests because they grow quickly, and grow in cooler weather when insects are less likely to be stalking your garden. You still need to check them regularly for pests just in case.

Store your *unwashed*, fresh greens in a plastic bag in the refrigerator. They should stay fresh for about a week.

Image (optional):

Free tags:
Heirloom [1]
mustard [2]
southern [3]
fall garden [4]
Image credit (optional):
source [5]
Crops:
mustard greens [6]
Type:
how-to [7]
Season:
fall [8]
Topics:
GARDEN TOPICS [9]
Group content visibility:
Use group defaults

Source URL: http://kgi.org/blog/miss-lady-bug/growing-heirloom-mustard-southern-giant-curled

Links:
[1] http://kgi.org/free-tags/heirloom

[2] http://kgi.org/free-tags/mustard
[3] http://kgi.org/free-tags/southern
[4] http://kgi.org/free-tags/fall-garden
[5] http://www.missladybugsgarden.com
[6] http://kgi.org/crops/mustard-greens
[7] http://kgi.org/blog-type/how
[8] http://kgi.org/season/fall
[9] http://kgi.org/topics/garden-topics