PLANT FACT SHEET

Tagetes lucida Cavanilles

GENUS *Tagetes* **FAMILY** Asteraceae

COMMON NAMES Sweet scented Marigold

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves - tea, Herb, flower

The leaves are used to make tea. It has an anise flavour.
Leaves can be dried for winter use.
Leaves are also used as a substitute for French Tarragon in soups.
The flower heads are brewed into anise flavoured tea.

DESCRIPTION

A perennial herb. It grows to 1 m high and spreads 45 cm wide. It can be grown as an annual in cold climates. The stems are woody. The leaves are narrow and blue-grey. They are 2.5 cm long. There are teeth along the edge. The flowers are yellow and like balls. They are 1 cm across and in flat topped clusters.

HABITAT

It is a warm temperate to subtropical plant. It needs moderate moisture. It needs an average, well-drained soil. It needs full sun. It suits hardiness zones 9-11. In Hobart Botanical gardens.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seed. Seedlings can be transplanted. It needs to be cut back to prevent branches falling over. Plants can be cut back and regrow from the roots.

NOTES

There are about 50 Tagetes species. It is used as a pesticide.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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