Oregano Thyme

Thymus vulgaris 'Oregano'



Oregano Thyme in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 14 inches

Spread: 14 inches

Spacing: 12 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 5a

Description:

This variety tastes a little like both oregano and thyme; rounded, dark green leaves with a strong oregano scent and flavor, with nice thyme undertones; looks very nice in containers, and is easy to harvest

Edible Qualities

Oregano Thyme is a perennial herb that is typically grown for its edible qualities, although it does have ornamental merits as well. The small fragrant round dark green leaves which emerge light green in spring can be harvested at any time in the season. The leaves have a savory taste and a pleasant fragrance.

The leaves are most often used in the following ways:

- Cooking
- Drying
- Seasoning

Features & Attributes

Oregano Thyme features showy spikes of pink flowers with lavender overtones rising above the foliage from early to mid summer. Its attractive small fragrant round leaves emerge light green in spring, turning dark green in color the rest of the year.

This is a dense herbaceous evergreen perennial herb with a spreading, ground-hugging habit of growth. It brings an extremely fine and delicate texture to the garden composition and should be used to full effect. This plant will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and is best cleaned up in early spring before it resumes active growth for the season. It is a good choice for attracting bees and butterflies to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Spreading

Aside from its primary use as an edible, Oregano Thyme is sutiable for the following landscape applications;

- Rock/Alpine Gardens
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Groundcover
- Herb Gardens

Planting & Growing

Oregano Thyme will grow to be about 12 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 14 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 12 inches apart. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 10 years. As an evegreen perennial, this plant will typically keep its form and foliage year-round.

This plant is quite ornamental as well as edible, and is as much at home in a landscape or flower garden as it is in a designated herb garden. It does best in full sun to partial shade. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America. It can be propagated by division; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.