

## Herbs for Central Texas

| Name  | **   | Height | Width  | Planting     | Sun           | Hardy?  | Notes  |
|---|------|--------|--------|--------------|---------------|---------|--|
| <b>FALL PLANTING: These plants prefer cooler temperatures.</b>  |      |        |        |              |               |         |  |
| <b>In the summer, (A) will die; (RA) will go to seed; (P) will go dormant. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> summer, (B) will go to seed &amp; die.</b> |      |        |        |              |               |         |  |
| Arugula   | RA   | 8-10"  | 18"    | seed, plant  | full sun      | hardy   | Allow to bloom for the bees; blooms up to 3'                           |
| Borage  | A    | 2-3'   | 2-3'   | seed, plant  | full/part sun | hardy   | Good bee plant; flowers are edible                                     |
| Chamomile, German   | A/RA | 18-24" | 12"    | seed, plant  | full sun      | hardy   | Affects those with hay fever; May reseed                               |
| Chamomile, Roman  | A    | 8-12"  | 10-18" | seed, plant  | full/part sun | hardy   | Affects those with hay fever; Annual in TX                             |
| Chervil   | RA   | 10"    | 15"    | seed, plant  | part sun      | to 25°F | Needs rich soil and moisture   |
| Cilantro/Coriander  | RA   | 2'     | 2'     | seed, plant  | full/part sun | hardy   | Leaf is cilantro; seed is coriander                                    |
| Comfrey   | P    | 2-3'   | 2-3'   | seed, plant  | part sun      | hardy   | Needs good, deep soil and moisture                                     |
| Dill, Fennel  | RA   | 2-3'   | 2'     | seed, plant  | full sun      | protect | Feeds the Black Swallowtail butterfly larvae                           |
| Lemon balm  | A/P  | 18"    | 2'     | seed, plant  | part sun      | hardy   | Likes rich soil and moisture; easy                                     |
| Parsley   | B    | 12-18" | 18"    | seed, plant  | full sun      | hardy   | Feeds the Black Swallowtail butterfly larvae; Soak seeds               |
| Sorrel, French  | P    | 2'     | 1'     | seed, plant  | part sun      | hardy   | Likes rich soil and moisture   |
| <b>SPRING PLANTING: These plants require warmth.</b>  |      |        |        |              |               |         |  |
| <b>In the winter, (A) and (TP) will die; (RA) will go to seed; (P) will go dormant; and (E) will stay green.</b>                            |      |        |        |              |               |         |  |
| Basil   | A    | 2'     | 18"    | seed, plant  | full sun      | no      | Prune off flowers for more leaves; Allow some flowers for bees         |
| Bay   | E    | 15'    | 10'    | plant        | full/part sun | to 25°F | Prune in spring/early summer   |
| Cumin   | A    | 6"     | 4-8"   | seed         | full sun      | no      | Requires warmth; Soak seeds before planting                            |
| Epazote   | RA/P | 2-3'   | 2'     | seed, plant  | full/part sun | no      | May reseed heavily   |
| Fenugreek   | A    | 2'     | 16"    | seed         | full sun      | no      | Needs warmth; Adds nitrogen - leave roots in soil at end of season     |
| Lemon Grass   | P    | 4'     | 4'     | plant        | full/part sun | to 17°F | Will go dormant at 32°F; may die at 17°F                               |
| Marjoram, Sweet   | TP   | 2'     | 2'     | seed, plant  | full/part sun | protect | <i>Origanum majorana</i> ; Likes dry, chalky soil                      |
| Oregano, Cretan or Greek  | E    | 1'     | 2"     | seed, plant  | full/part sun | to 14°F | <i>Origanum onites</i> ; aka Pot Marjoram; Dry, chalky soil            |
| Salad Burnet  | E    | 2'     | 1'     | seed, plant  | full sun      | very    | Prefers moist, chalky soil; Tastier in cool weather & before flowering |
| Savory, Summer  | A    | 1'     | 16"    | seed, plant  | full sun      | no      | Can plant seed in fall; Flowers attract bees                           |
| Sesame  | A    | 2-3'   | 20"    | seed         | full sun      | no      | Requires warmth; 120 days to mature seed                               |
| Stevia  | A    | 20-30" | 18-24" | *seed, plant | full/part sun | no      | Prefers well-composted, well-drained soil – moist, not soggy           |
| Tarragon, French  | TP   | 1-2'   | 12-15" | plant        | part sun      | no      | Nearly impossible to grow here; Use Mexican Mint Marigold              |
| Wormwood  | P    | 3'     | 2'     | seed, plant  | full/part sun | hardy   | Prefers poor, dry soil   |

\* = difficult to grow from seed

\*\* = Annual (A), Reseeding Annual (RA), Perennial (P), Tender Perennial (TP), Biennial (B), and/or Evergreen (E)

**Hardy** = root hardy; aerial parts may die back in winter

## *Herbs for Central Texas* (continued)

| Name  | ** | Height | Width  | Planting     | Sun           | Hardy?  | Notes  |
|---|----|--------|--------|--------------|---------------|---------|--|
| <b>YEAR-ROUND PLANTING</b>                              |    |        |        |              |               |         |  |
| <i>These plants are perennial (P) or evergreen (E).</i> |    |        |        |              |               |         |  |
| Catnip  | P  | 3-4'   | 2'     | seed, plant  | full/part sun | hardy   | Makes a relaxing tea for humans, too                             |
| Chives  | E  | 1'     | 1'     | seed, plant  | full sun      | hardy   | Flowers are edible too   |
| Lavender  | E  | 2'     | 18"    | *seed, plant | full sun      | hardy   | Needs well-drained, dry, limestone soil; short-lived in our area |
| Mexican Mint Marigold                                   | P  | 3'     | 5'     | plant        | full/part sun | hardy   | Substitute for French Tarragon                                   |
| Mints   | P  | 18"    | 2'     | *seed, plant | full/part sun | hardy   | Requires moisture; Can be invasive                               |
| Oregano   | E  | 2'     | 18"    | seed, plant  | full/part sun | hardy   | Great landscape plant  |
| Pennyroyal  | P  | 6"     | 24"    | seed, plant  | sun to shade  | protect | Requires moisture  |
| Rosemary  | E  | 2-4'   | 18"    | *seed, plant | full sun      | hardy   | Do not overwater   |
| Rue   | E  | 2-3'   | 18-24" | seed, plant  | full sun      | hardy   | Blooms second year; Use caution-leaves may cause dermatitis      |
| Sage  | E  | 18"    | 2'     | seed, plant  | full/part sun | hardy   | Well-drained soil; don't wet leaves                              |
| St. John's Wort   | P  | 2'     | 15"    | seed, plant  | part sun      | hardy   | Shrubby plant; Tolerates average soil; Blooms late summer        |
| Savory, Winter  | E  | 1'     | 1'     | *seed, plant | full sun      | hardy   | Tolerates poor, alkaline soil;                                   |
| Thyme, several varieties                                | E  | 2-15"  | 12-18" | seed, plant  | full sun      | hardy   | Seed planted when warm; Wooly & Elfin thymes are 2" tall         |

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|--|--------|-------|----------|----------------|--|
| <b>TENDER PERENNIAL</b>  |        |       |          |                |  |
| <i>These plants must be protected in winter. Cover them during freezes or keep them in a pot to bring indoors.</i> |        |       |          |                |  |
| Aloe Vera  | 1-2'   | 1'    | plant    | part sun       | Likes more moisture & less sun than most succulents                    |
| Lime, Kaffir   | 10'    | 5'    | plant    | full/part sun  | Peel of the fruit is also used in Thai cooking                         |
| Lemon Verbena  | 3-4'   | 3'    | plant    | full/part sun  | Likes soil with good drainage; Hardy to 14-22°F, esp. if roots are dry |
| Patchouli  | 2-3'   | 2-3'  | plant    | part sun/shade | Produces pink flowers in fall from which seed can be harvested         |
| Scented Geranium   | 1-3'   | 1-3'  | plant    | full/part sun  | Many varieties available; Makes lovely delicate flowers                |

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