



FYN Topic: Spring Herb Gardens

Question: What culinary herbs can I start now in the spring? Will all of them make it through the summer while I am up north? Amy, Ft. Myers

Answer: Many annual herbs are planted each spring either from seed, cuttings or purchased plants. Visit the Master Gardener's herb garden at Terry Park or call Extension's Horticulture Help Desk and ask about particular herbs you want to grow. Some annual herbs do need replanting every spring no matter what you do or don't do. In fact, our hot, rainy summers will guarantee failure for herbs that hug the ground like marjoram and thyme. Others that may need replanting each spring include parsley, scented geraniums, sorrel, savory, tarragon, dill, borage, fennel, nasturtiums and chamomile. Still other herbs and spices are semi-tropical like ginger, rosemary and bay laurel. These perennials survive all year round. Several 4-H youth will be selling culinary herb seed packets (10 packs for \$10) at today's Herb Day Festival as a club fundraiser. Hours are 9am-2pm. Greenhouse raised herb plants, topiaries and unique herbal items are also being sold at the same educational event. 4-H's mega-10 pack has thyme, curled parsley, sweet basil, Italian parsley, Florence fennel, mammoth Long Island dill, Italian oregano, cilantro (aka. coriander), garlic chives and summer savory. There will also be herbal speakers, demonstration and a led afternoon tour at a nearby herb production garden. Location: Eco-Living Center at Rutenberg Park, 6490 South Pointe Blvd. Ft Myers, FL.

Useful Links

<http://www.floridayards.org>
<http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu>
<http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/>
<http://lee.ifas.ufl.edu/FYN/FYNHome.shtml>
<http://gardeningsolutions.ifas.ufl.edu>

Thomas Becker is an extension agent for the Florida Yards and Neighborhoods (FYN) program at the Lee County Extension Service. Submit questions by calling the Horticulture Help Desk at 239-533-7504 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. or by emailing Extgardener@leegov.com. Visit his Web page at <http://lee.ifas.ufl.edu/FYN/FYNHome.shtml>

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