

Growing Tarragon Outdoors

Artemisia dracunculus

QUICK FACTS

USDA ZONES

4–10

SUNLIGHT

Full Sun

AT A GLANCE

French tarragon (*A. dracunculus* var. *sativa*) is the only type worth growing for culinary use -- it is sterile and must be purchased as a transplant or propagated from cuttings, never from seed. If a seed packet says "tarragon," it is Russian tarragon and has no culinary value. French tarragon is perennial in zones 4–8 and requires well-drained soil and a cold winter dormancy period.

PLANTING CHECKLIST

- Match site to sun requirements above before buying
- Test soil drainage — dig a 12" hole, fill with water, time it (should drain in 1–2 hrs)
- Dig hole 2x wider than rootball, same depth
- Backfill with native soil — do NOT amend the planting hole
- Water deeply at planting and weekly for first 3 weeks
- Mulch 2" deep, keep mulch 2" away from trunk/stems

FULL GUIDE WITH SOURCES

<https://outdoorplantcare.com/vegetables/growing-tarragon/>

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