

Lemongrass

Cymbopogon citratus · Grass family

DIFFICULTY

Easy

TYPE

Tender perennial clumping grass

MATURITY

Usable from 4–6 months



SUN

Full sun, warm



WATER

Regular



SOIL PH

6.0–7.5



SPACING

60–90cm

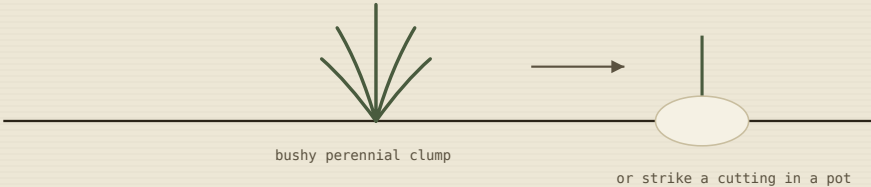


DEPTH

as per pot

01 A large, useful clump

Lemongrass forms a substantial clump over a season or two and divides easily — a few plants can quickly become a hedge-sized supply.



02 Planting

METHOD	Plant a nursery seedling or a rooted stem from a supermarket bunch.
SOIL	Rich, well-drained.
TIMING	Plant in spring once frost risk has passed.

04 Problems

- **Frost damage** — the main risk in cooler zones; mulch heavily over winter.
- **Rust** — occasional leaf spotting; improve airflow.
- **Few other pest issues** — a generally trouble-free plant.
- **Slow establishment** — be patient in the first season.

03 Growing care

- Water regularly through the warmer months.
- Feed occasionally with compost.
- Divide the clump every couple of years to keep it vigorous.
- Protect from frost in cooler zones — foliage dies back but the base often survives.

05 Harvest & storage

SIGNS	Usable once stems reach pencil thickness at the base.
METHOD	Cut stalks at the base, use the lower white-pink section.
CURING	None needed; can be frozen for longer storage.
STORAGE	Fridge, a couple of weeks; frozen, several months.

06 Companions & rotation

PLANT NEARBY	AVOID NEARBY	ROTATION NOTE
Chilli Ginger	None major	Not applicable — long-lived perennial clump.