

Sweet Basil

- * Scientific Name: *Ocimum basilicum*
- * Family: Mint (Lamiaceae)
- * Type: Annual Edible Herb
- * Native range: Africa and Asia
- * Sun: Full sun
- * Blooms: June to Frost
- * Attracts: Honey bees, Hummingbirds, Butterflies, Native bees, & Bumblebees, among others.
- * Cultivated: Alamance County

Notes: Leaves may taste somewhat like [anise](#), with a strong, pungent, often sweet smell. Basil is most commonly used fresh in recipes. In general, it is added at the last moment, as cooking quickly destroys the flavor. Basil is one of the main ingredients in pesto. Flowers are a great nectar and pollen source.



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