# Unusual crops to grow



Cut out to make your own seed packet!

## Lemongrass

Latin name: Cybopogon citratus

Origin: South East Asia

**Plant family:** Graminae (part of the grass family)



A tropical grass which can be grown from seed or by planting fresh stems from a Chinese or Indian

Can be grown in a pot and brought indoors in cold weather or left in a greenhouse. Makes a wonderful tea and a useful repellent to head lice!

#### Learning activity: investigate

Lemongrass has many medicinal properties. Investigate how plants have been used as natural medicines in many cultures

#### **Growing instructions**

- Can be grown from seed but easier to grow from (culms) stems sold in shops.
- Buy a fresh bunch from a Chinese, Caribbean or Indian supermarket.
- Slice a small piece from the end of a stem and place in compost.
- Keep warm and roots should start to develop within 3 weeks.

### **Growing instructions card**

www.gardenorganic.org.uk/sites/www. gardenorganic.org.uk/files/sns/factsheets/ FactsheetLemongrass.pdf

### Culinary uses

- Make your own lemongrass tea bags to sell
- Make your own Thai style paste with ginger, garlic and chilli



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