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Zitronengras

## Lemongrass

### Cymbopogon flexuosus

Lemongrass is a basic part of the Asian cuisine and gives many dishes with the lemon scent of its foliage leaves and its slightly peppery aroma an exotic flavour. It can easily be cultivated in a pot or tub and grows up 60 cm high. The green, reed-like parts of your plant, especially the juicy stalks and the thickened leaf bases, can easily be used in the kitchen as a better alternative to the commercially available Lemongrass with a much weaker aroma. While cooking, always tenderiz

**Natural location:** The Cymbopogon flexuosus grows naturally and in cultivation in Sri Lanka, India, Myanmar and Thailand.

**Cultivation:** Seed propagation indoors is possible throughout the year. Spread and slightly press the seeds onto moist potting compost or herb-substrate and put only very little compost earth on top. Cover the seed container with clear film to prevent the earth from drying out, but don't forget to make some holes in the clear film and take it every second or third day completely off for about 2 hours. That way you avoid mold formation on your potting compost. Place the seed container somewhere bright and warm with a temperature between 20°C and 25°Celsius and keep the earth – preferably with a water sprayer – moist, but not wet. Depending on the propagation temperature, the first seedlings will come up after two to four weeks.

**Place:** Lemongrass prefers a sunny place. During summer it can also be kept in a wind and rain-sheltered spot outdoors.

**Care:** Keep the earth always moist, but avoid waterlogging in pot and saucer. During the growth period you may add fluid fertilizer for herbal plants to the water every three to four weeks. Through cuttings from the second year on, you can multiply the Lemongrass or make it a present for a beloved friend.

**During the winter:** Lemongrass is not frost-hard and should be moved indoors during autumn, where it best hibernates in a bright and cool place.

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