

<p>Family: BRASSICACEAE Genus: <i>Sinapis</i> Species: <i>alba</i> Cvs or ssp: <i>Sinapis hirta</i> is the wild variety, found around the Mediterranean, & this was also used.</p>	<p>Proper name: <i>Sinapis alba</i> Medievally known as: White Mustard Common Name: White Mustard</p>
<p>Average Size: 70cm</p>	<p>Origin: Mediterranean area</p>
<p>Distinctive Features: leaves are very deeply & complexly lobed to lobed imparipinnate. 4-petalled flowers flowering along a growing raceme mid-summer to autumn, seeds ripen late summer to late autumn.</p>	<p>Habit: erect annual herb Conservation status: very common</p>
<p>Aspect: full sun, but temperatures over 25°C during flowering & ripening may reduce seed setting & lower quality of seed.</p>	<p>Soils: likes limey soils, but grows in acid & alkaline (ph 4.5 to 8.2). Will grow in most soils, prefers light well-drained moist soils.</p>
<p>Pruning: nil</p>	<p>Pests & diseases: susceptible to White Rust (<i>Albugo candida</i>), bacterial black rot (<i>Xanthomonas campestris</i>), Alternaria leaf spot (<i>Alternaria Brassica</i>), Clubroot (<i>Plasmodiophora brassicae</i>), & downy & powdery mildews. Insects: Cabbage aphid.</p>
<p>Usefulness: food</p>	<p>Propagation: by seed once soils have warmed (4.4-7.2°C). Sprouts within a few days. Matures 80-85 days.</p>
<p>Culinary use: mustard seeds for pickling or making sauces, young leaves used in mixed salads, older leaves as a potherb,</p>	<p>Special features: readily becomes a weed, light frost hardy, benefits from applied nitrogen</p>
<p>Notes: yield of seed ranges from 1 tonne/hectare up to 8 tonnes. Early sowings are for seed crop, later for leaves & green manure. First mustard-maker appears on register in France in 1292. Mustard noted in England in 1390.</p>	<p>Comments: In the 1st planting 2/12/14. A row was placed against the brick wall, one of the four borders for the plot. The brick wall retained the heat, which then radiated out to the White Mustard which coped well with the heat especially in Summer. When the White Mustard plants died & dried out we pulled out the plants, seeds & all. The seed pods were kept for processing later. Results of testing will be shown elsewhere on this website. The White Mustard seeds have self sewn & germinated & grown. In June 2015 they are over 1m high with thick foliage & tasty leaves. The leaves are harvested each week as food. The challenge for this plant is to see what we can make with the mustard seeds & greens.</p>

Photos: #1 Köhler's Medizinal-Pflanzen, #2 ©Procter & Gamble

