

ANOTHER
HERB HERBERT
FACT SHEET

SPECIAL INTEREST HERBS

GOURMET VEGETABLES

EGGPLANT

Japanese Long Tom F1



The earliest record of cultivation of the aubergine is from the fifth century B. C. and it was also grown in India at an early date. It was found in Europe in the thirteenth century, but not widely cultivated until the sixteenth. Aubergine is the french name, derived from the Catalan albergina, which itself is a corruption of the Arabic al-badingan. This variety is used predominately in Asia and is grown in Japan.

DESCRIPTION
Purple black fruit.

Perennial grown as annual.

Aubergine, may be sub-shrubby or herbaceous, usually grown as an annual. Leaves are soft and hairy, with purple flowers.

Japanese Eggplants differ from European varieties as the fruit, plants and foliage are much smaller. They are however prolific yeilders, up to 50 fruit per plant, early maturing and much more disease resistant.

The glossy purple-black fruit is picked when young to encourage further fruit set.

RECIPES
Culinary

Excellent roasted whole, sliced, stuffed or added to stews and casseroles.

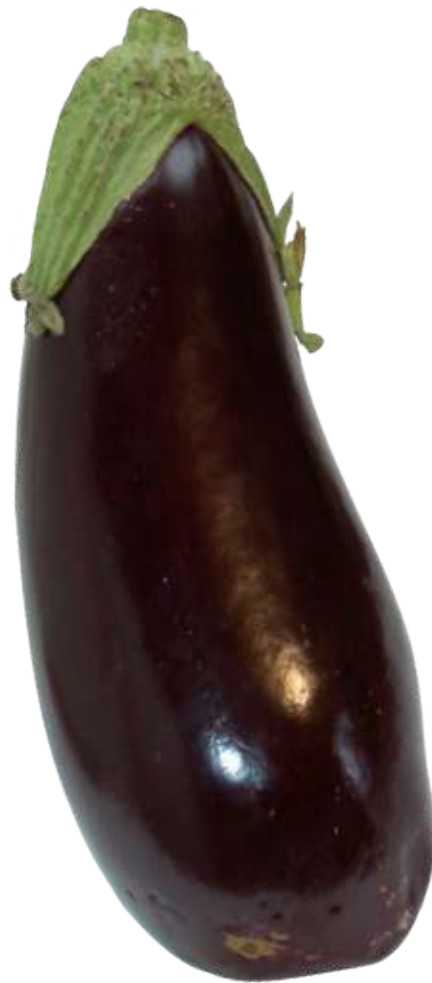
GROWTH
Early maturing variety, also disease resistant. Approx. 55 days to harvest.

Days to maturity are calculated from the time you set plants in the garden. (Add 6-8 weeks to raise transplant from seed.)

CULTIVATION
Perfect for containers, prolific yeilders in pots.

These stunning vegetables are as easy to grow as peppers, but thrive in hotter weather. Space 1-2in./4cm apart. Seed should ideally be grown in heat around 20 C/70 F in spring and seedlings planted out in late spring, when frost has finished. If timing and warmth is limited, pot plants can be used. Soil should be well drained and well manured, with high potash to encourage good root growth. Eggplants do well in grow bags in peat compost, but can become too leafy and require frequent watering in hot weather. Pinching the top out when the plant is about 40cm/16 in. tall will encourage bushy growth. Feed with high potash tomato fertilizer when fruits are swelling. Both white and red spider mite are likely to affect aubergines grown under glass, and red spider is often found in dry places outside. Both these pests breed at great speed in dry, warm conditions and can be controlled by frequent wetting of the leaves and by spraying a soap solution, as well as by establishing a good population of suitable predators. The warm humid condition ideal for eggplants is also perfect for botrytis, which can attach to the dead petals, or places on the stem where there is a wound, especially in autumn/fall if

the weather becomes wetter and cooler.



Any enquiries can be directed to:

HERB HERBERT P/L PO Box 24 Monbulk
Victoria 3793 Australia

E-mail: herb@herbherbert.com

This Herb description is for informal use only; we cannot accept any liability for any harm or illness arising from the misuse of the plant described above

www.herbherbert.com

