

broducers. to West Virginia's many home gardeners and agricultural Garden Calendar is designed and printed as a service The 2017 West Virginia University Extension Service

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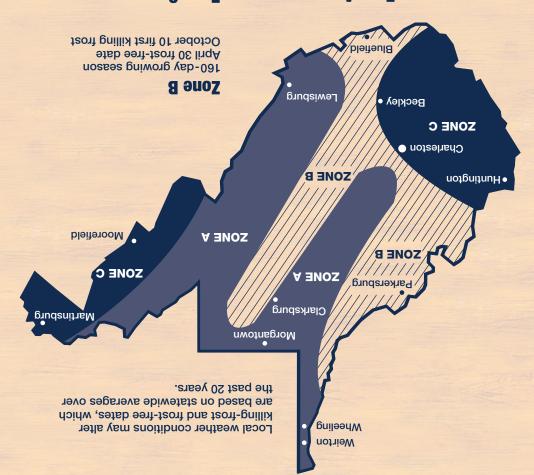
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PLANTING ZONES



J auoz

October 20 first killing frost April 20 frost-free date 180-day growing season

145-day growing season A 9noz

October 5 first killing frost May 10 frost-free date



JANUARY

DECEMBER s m T w T F S						
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1	12	13	14	15	16	17
8	19	20	21	22	23	24
-						

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	● First Quarter 5	6	7
New Year's Day	Increase humidity for houseplants	Plan garden layout	Browse seed catalogs	Cut poinsettias to 6 inches and place in sunny windows	Order herb seeds Harvest overwintered Brussels sprouts	Harvest overwintered kale
8	9	10	11	○Full Moon 12	13	14
	Create a garden map	Order seed varieties Consult WVU Extension's recommendations	Seed tomatoes for early high tunnel planting	Service power equipment	Clean garden tools	Test germination of stored seeds
15	16	17	18	① Last Quarter 19	20	21
	Martin Luther King Jr. Day Use grow lights for vegetable seedlings	Gently remove snow or ice from evergreens and shrubs				Organize a community garden
22	23	24	25	26	New Moon 27	28
			Order fertilizer and lime according to soil test results	Plan spring landscape design		
29	30	31	through each month	offers resources to garde to learn how to plant, gro ovariety chart, pest manag	w and use a variety of he	rbs. Then turn to the

Service experts that will help take you from seed-sowing to the kitchen table.



LAVENDER

By John Porter, WVU Extension Agent - Kanawha County

Lavender has become a very popular herb in the last several years for its aromatic qualities used for perfumes and both grooming and cleaning products. This fragrant herb has been used for more than 2,500 years, from embalming mummies in ancient Egypt to perfuming baths for Romans.

While commonly used for its fragrance, lavender is also edible. It is sometimes added to the French herb combination known as Herbes de Provence that is used for flavoring a variety of dishes. Lavender can also add a floral note to desserts and drinks.

Growth

Lavender is one of the more difficult herbs to propagate and grow; therefore, starting from cuttings is highly suggested.

The herb grows well in well-drained, alkaline soils with a pH between 6.4 and 8.2 in hardiness zones 5 to 8. Most soils in West Virginia require amendment with organic matter and lime to encourage growth. The plants require at least eight hours of full sun and thrive in dry conditions.

Lavender can be grown in the garden or in containers, but keep in mind the plants need to be kept dry. Containers should be overwintered outside in a protected area.

Harvest and Use

Both the leaves and flowers of lavender are used for fragrance and food. Stems of lavender leaves can be removed through pruning for use throughout the season, leaving at least 75 percent of the plant for growth. Harvest flowers just after they open and dry on the stalk. The flowers will remain on the stalks, so they can be bundled for use, or flowers can be removed after they are dry.

FEBRUARY

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15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
00	20	21					200	27	20	20	20	21	

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	● First Quarter 3	4
				Groundhog Day	Harvest overwintered vegetables	
5	6	7	8	9	○ Full Moon 10	11
	Start a kitchen herb garden	Apply lime and fertilizer Order fruit trees	Order a high tunnel	Seed head lettuce (indoors)	Build a low tunnel or cold frame	Seed leeks (indoors) Seed cauliflower (indoors)
12	13	14	15	16	17	① Last Quarter 18
	Clean dust from houseplants with damp cloth	Valentine's Day Seed celery (indoors)	Seed leafy salad greens in high tunnel	Order herb seeds Prune grapes	Seed broccoli (indoors)	Order seed potatoes
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	Presidents' Day Seed peas (outdoors) south of U.S. Rt. 60	Prune raspberries, blackberries and fruit trees	Seed cabbage (indoors) Plant Irish potatoes in high tunnel	Seed onions and greens in cold frame or low tunnel	Apply lime sulfur to blueberries Prune blueberries	Apply dormant oil spray to fruit trees Prune deciduous trees and shrubs
New Moon 26	27 Mow asparagus	28			a member of the mint fam color and taste in both sw	

ferns

Presprout seed potatoes

dishes, lavender pairs well with fennel, oregano and rosemary in most recipes.



OREGANO

By Alex Straight, WVU Extension Agent - Ritchie County

Oregano was first mentioned in Greek mythology as an invention of the goddess of love, Aphrodite. Newly married couples were commonly crowned with wreaths of the herb, and it was placed on graves to give peace to departed spirits.

The traditional oregano we most commonly think of is used in Italian cuisine and hails from southern Italy. It gained popularity in the United States after soldiers returning from World War II brought it back from overseas. Other cultivars are used in Mexican and Turkish cuisine to flavor meats, such as mutton, lamb and fish.

The traditional flavor is described as piney, sweet and acrid. A good, strong, fresh oregano is described as being able to numb the tongue. Oregano has been grown and developed for centuries, and there are hundreds of different varieties and cultivars to try that have different purposes and flavors.

Growth

Oregano is a perennial herb, often used as an annual in cooler climates. To ensure that it will come back each year, oregano plants should be planted in well protected areas and should be heavily mulched. Alternatively, plant it in a container and transplant indoors for the winter season, which will give you fresh herbs year-round.

It should be planted in full sun and in a dry area to get the biggest, healthiest plant. Oregano is a bush-like herb that grows from 8 to 31.5 inches tall. It will grow in a variety of pH ranges from 6.0 to 9.0.

Harvest and Use

Oregano leaves are best used fresh but can also be dried to preserve the herb for year-round consumption. It tastes wonderful paired with acidic flavors, like lemon and garlic, and with other herbs like basil.

MARCH

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19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	
26	27	28					23	24	

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
					Ocad autickalia	Out on a sink
			Ash Wednesday		Seed artichokes (indoors)	Order specialty seed potatoes
♠ First Quarter 5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Seed microgreens	Plant broadleaf evergreens	Plant onion sets	Take cuttings from herbs	Seed chives Build a high tunnel	Seed leaf lettuce and spinach (indoors)
○ Full Moon 12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Daylight Saving Time Begins	Seed tomatoes (indoors)	Seed peppers (indoors)	Seed Swiss chard (indoors)	Seed peas (outdoors) Plant nonflowering trees and shrubs	St. Patrick's Day Seed radishes, spinach and leeks (outdoors)	Seed parsnips Plant roses
19	① Last Quarter 20	21	22	23	24	25
	Spring Begins Seed salsify Set head lettuce	Fertilize spring- flowering bulbs	Seed eggplant (indoors)	Plant asparagus (outdoors)	Set strawberry plants	Divide overcrowded rhubarb
26	New Moon 27	28	29	30	31	
	Seed radishes (outdoors) Plant rhubarb	Plant potatoes Fertilize asparagus and rhubarb beds	Begin dogwood anthracnose control Use row covers for freeze protection	Seed lavender (indoors)	Seed cutting celery (indoors)	



CILANTRO

By Daisy Bailey, WVU Extension Agent - Gilmer and Calhoun Counties

Cilantro, also known as coriander, is a Chinese herb that is commonly used in Mexican and Asian cuisines. It originally came from a wide region that covered southern Europe, northern Africa and southwestern Asia.

Growth

Cilantro is not typically grown in many herb gardens, despite the fact that it's relatively easy to grow. To grow from seeds, prepare the cilantro seeds by soaking them in water for 24 to 48 hours. Remove the seeds from the water and let them dry. Then, you may start seedlings indoors or plant directly outside under ¼ inch of soil as long as there is no fear of frost. Thin the seedlings when they reach 2 inches in height to a spacing of 3 to 4 inches apart.

Cilantro grows well when crowded with other cilantro plants, and this will actually delay the plant from producing new seeds in warmer weather. If you are transplanting cilantro, space plants 3 to 4 inches apart in containers or gardening beds. Cilantro is best grown in the spring and fall.

Harvest and Use

You can use cilantro fresh or as a dried herb when cooking. All parts of the plant can be used, though the leaves and seeds tend to be used more commonly than the stem. To harvest, simply pull the leaves from the stems. If you wish to use the entire plant, cut it off at the base and chop into desired pieces.

Preserve cilantro for later use by harvesting the parts of the plant that you wish to preserve and lay them out to dry. If harvesting the entire plant, simply hang it upside down until completely dry. Once dry, place the parts in an airtight container and store in a moisture-free location. Cilantro can also be frozen prior to drying.

APRIL

 MARCH

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						April Fools' Day Seed Swiss chard, carrots and parsnips (outdoors)
2	● First Quarter 3	4	5	6	7	8
	Seed onions, beets and radishes (outdoors)	Seed basil for transplant (indoors) Plant cabbage and kohlrabi	Plant potatoes and raspberries Seed beets and kale (outdoors)	Seed or plant broccoli, cabbage and cauliflower (outdoors)	Seed komatsuna Plant blackberries Seed parsnips (outdoors)	Seed dill (indoors) Plant fruit and hazelnut trees
9 Palm Sunday	Seed shallots Plant peas and seed radishes (outdoors) Apply crabgrass control	Passover Begins Seed leaf lettuce (outdoors)	Order sweet potato slips or bed sweet potatoes for transplanting	Fertilize lawn Seed or plant collards Seed watermelons (indoors)	West Virginia Arbor Day Good Friday Start compost pile Plant perennials	Seed late tomatoes (indoors) Loosen mulch on strawberries
16	17	18	① Last Quarter 19	20	21	22
Easter	Remove row cover from strawberries Refresh mulch in landscape beds	Plant peas (outdoors) Transplant leeks Seed new lawn	Seed chives (outdoors) Seed annual herbs	Seed carrots Seed Swiss chard	Seed Asian greens Plant sweet corn (indoors)	Earth Day Plant summer- flowering bulbs
23	24	25	New Moon 26	27	28	29
30	Apply pre-emergent landscape weed control	Begin spraying fruit trees after petals fall	Buy herb cuttings/plugs	Seed flat-leaf parsley	National Arbor Day	



BASIL

By Lewis Jett, WVU Extension Specialist - Commercial Horticulture

Basil is one of the most popular herbs grown in gardens. Sweet basil and other botanical varieties offer a panorama of flavors and textures for cooking and fragrance. There are several varieties of basil, including sweet, Asian, citrus, cinnamon, fineleaf and purple. Basil is a tender, annual plant and is planted after the last spring frost in West Virginia, usually in late May.

Growth

Basil is typically established as a transplant, because the seed is very small and somewhat difficult to sow. Seeds for transplants can be sown indoors about four to six weeks before transplanting.

When planting in the garden, choose a weed-free site with good drainage and full sun. Typical spacing is 10 to 18 inches between plants. Basil can be mulched after the soil warms to control weeds, keep the leaves clean and reduce soil moisture evaporation. The herb requires regular watering during the growing season. It can be successfully grown in containers, allowing gardeners to take the plant inside after frost and harvest throughout the fall.

Harvest and Use

To harvest basil, clip or pinch the upper 2 to 3 inches of stem tips. Harvesting, or tipping, once per week promotes branching and prevents blooming. Basil can be propagated from tip and stem cuttings by cutting the top 4 inches from the stem and rooting it in a cup of water to later transplant. When basil blooms, the plant stops producing new leaves and channels its energy into undesirable seed production. Basil should be harvested while the leaves are cool and dry, preferably in the evening.

Basil can be pureed and frozen if not used fresh.

APRIL JUNE 10 11 12 13 14 15 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 19 20 21 17 18 19 20 21 22

				30				
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday		
	1	● First Quarter 2	3	4	5	6		
	Seed or transplant lemon balm (outdoors)		Seed or transplant parsley		Transplant onions Plant fingerling potatoes	Transplant or seed Chinese cabbage Seed snap beans (outdoors)		
7	8	9	○ Full Moon 10	11	12	13		
	Seed head lettuce (outdoors) Control broadleaf weeds in lawn	Seed leaf lettuce and winter squash (outdoors)	Seed summer squash and cucumbers (outdoors)	Seed late celery (outdoors) Seed sweet corn	Seed cilantro (outdoors) Plant early celery and tomatoes	Seed thyme Plant bok choy		
14	15	16	17	① Last Quarter 18	19	20		
Mother's Day	Grow mint in containers Seed annual flowers	Transplant or seed melons Fertilize houseplants	Plant sweet potatoes	Plant large pumpkins	Plant peppers and cabbage	Plant okra Seed lima beans Harvest established asparagus		
21	22	23	24	New Moon 25	26	Begin control 27		
	Avoid planting tomatoes or peppers with blooms	Seed sweet corn Remove strawberry blossoms on new plants	Seed or transplant basil Seed malabar spinach	Install row covers to exclude insects on cabbage and broccoli	Prune azaleas, viburnum, lilac and forsythia after blooming	measures for cucumber beetle Plant tomatoes and eggplant		
28	Memorial Day Turn compost Plant jack-o'-lantern	Prune tomatoes at first flowering Plant an	Stake and mulch tomatoes	Known as one of the healthiest herbs, basil's sweet, fresh leaves contain an impressive list of nutrients. The basil plant is easily maintained both indoors and outdoors and is a star ingredient in many pestos, soups and pasta dishes				

Trellis cucumbers

herb garden

pumpkins



CHIVES

By Larry Campbell, WVU Extension Agent (Retired) - Harrison County

Chives are small, bulbous and hardy perennials that are members of the onion family. This culinary herb is native to Asia and Europe and has been in use for more than 5,000 years. Common chives have tubular, green leaves and produce round, violet-colored blossoms. Garlic chives, also called Chinese chives, have flatter leaves and white blossoms. Common chives have a mild onion flavor and garlic chives have a slight garlic flavor. Both varieties grow in dense clumps with leaves up to 12 inches tall.

Growth

Chives are grown by either direct seeding or division. They grow best in rich, well-drained soil with a pH of 5.8 to 7.0. Seed chives early in the spring and plant ¼ inch deep. When directly seeded, chives are slow to establish and may produce a minimal yield the first year.

The easiest way to grow chives is to plant rooted clumps from plants divided in the spring. Clumps should contain three to six plants and be planted 6 to 8 inches apart and 1 inch deep. Tops should be cut back to about 1.5 inches above the roots at planting. Divide and replant clumps every three to four years.

Harvest and Use

Harvest chives to ½ inch to 1.5 inches above the soil by cutting the green tops with a sharp knife or a pair of scissors.

Chives can be used fresh, dried or frozen; however, freezing chives does not diminish the flavor as much as drying. Simply chop the leaves into ¼-inch pieces and place a teaspoon into each section of an ice cube tray and then top with water and freeze.

Dry chives in bundles in vented paper bags placed in a warm, dry place until the leaves are brittle to the touch. They can also be dried in an oven or in a conventional dehydrator.

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21	22	23	24	25	26	27	16	17	1
28	29	30	31				23	24	2

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				First Quarter Plant asparagus beans	Seed or transplant fennel Seed lettuce as a companion plant to tomatoes	Seed snap beans and carrots Seed summer squash and corn for late crop
4	5	6	7	8	○ Full Moon 9	10
	Seed cabbage, cauliflower and broccoli for fall crop Seed lettuce	Seed parsley Seed pumpkins and winter squash	Seed leaf and Bibb lettuce Plant celery	Monitor for garden pests Build a high tunnel	Mulch garden to control weeds and conserve moisture	Plant tomatoes Seed bush limas Summer prune apples and peaches
11	12	13	Flag Day 14	15	16	① Last Quarter 17
	Begin control measures for squash vine borer	Seed sweet corn and beets	Seed pumpkins and winter squash Begin bagworm control	Side-dress sweet corn with additional nitrogen	Deadhead annuals to encourage more flowers	Transplant thyme Pinch blackberry canes Plant peppers
18 Father's Day	Prune spring- flowering shrubs Control cabbage worms with DiPel® or row cover	West Virginia 20 Day Renovate (e.g., leaf removal, fertilize, etc.) strawberries after last harvest	21 Summer Begins Pinch back garden mums Seed dill	Seed pole limas and snap beans Treat lawn for white grubs using systemic insecticide	Prune pine trees End asparagus harvest	Seed or transplant savory Harvest beet greens Turn compost
25	26	27	28	29	● First Quarter 30	
	Plant late tomatoes and peppers	Add non-seed- bearing weeds to compost	Plant basil	Transplant rosemary Plant cilantro	Seed basil	



PARSLEY

By Natasha Harris, WVU Extension Agent - Upshur County

Parsley is one of the most popular herbs and used in a variety of dishes and garnishes. It is rich in iron and vitamins A and C, making it a healthy addition to foods. The biennial plant will return year after year once it is established.

Growth

Parsley is cold-weather tolerant and easy to grow. It can be grown in containers, sown directly outdoors or transplanted into a garden. To start the growing season early, sow seeds indoors in a seed starter kit or in small containers eight to ten weeks prior to the last spring frost. Sow seeds ¼-inch deep and keep soil moist at 70 degrees Fahrenheit.

At 12 to 21 days seedlings will emerge and need sunlight. After the last frost, transplant the seedlings outdoors, near asparagus, tomatoes, corn or around the border of the garden in well-drained soil. Keep area weed-free and water during dry spells.

Alternatively, parsley can be directly sown outdoors into well-drained, weed-free soil or in containers. Plant seeds and cover with a thin, firm ¼-inch layer of soil. As plants emerge 1 to 2 inches tall, thin plants to 6 to 8 inches apart.

Harvest and Use

Parsley is ready to harvest when the leaf stems have three segments. Harvest the outer leaves only by cutting them at the base of the stalk.

Fresh parsley can be stored in the refrigerator, or fresh leaves can be preserved by freezing them in ice cubes.

Another popular method of preservation is drying. Cut the parsley at the base and hang it in a dry, shady, warm area. Once the parsley is completely dry, crumble the leaves and store them in an airtight container.

 AUGUST

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Sunday		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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							Seed late cabbage, cauliflower and Brussels sprouts
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		Seed late corn, snap beans, kale		Watch for early and late tomato blight	Plant grape or cherry tomatoes for fall		
		and broccoli Seed or plant endive	Independence Day	Seed carrots and Swiss chard	Seed late sweet corn and beets	Mulch to conserve soil moisture	Watch for Japanese beetles
C Full Moon	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
		Order garlic seed	Plant Chinese cabbage	Remove raspberry canes after fruiting Seed borage	Pinch the top of black raspberry canes	Seed dill Turn compost	For the largest flowers, remove side shoots from main stem
Last Quarter	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
		Seed collards and kale for fall	Harvest summer squash when young and tender	Plant cauliflower Don't let weeds go to seed	Plant fall broccoli and Swiss chard	Seed fall cucumbers	Water young trees and shrubs during dry periods
New Moon	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
First Quarter	30	Plant peppers 31 for fall crop	Seed summer squash for fall crop	Take cuttings from herbs	Pinch basil so there are four pairs of leaves per plant	Plant Brussels sprouts	



AUGUST

Jl	JLY	,				SEPTEMBER							55
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
30	31												

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
		Add non-seed- bearing weeds to compost	Seed beets Water plants deeply each time	Seed beans and peas for fall crop	Seed spinach Seed fall carrots	Plant cabbage for fall crop
6	○ Full Moon 7	8	9	10	11	12
	Plant Chinese cabbage	Seed lettuce for fall crop	Watch for downy mildew	Seed mustard greens Seed radishes	Seed fall cucumbers	Control broadleaf lawn weeds
13	① Last Quarter 14	15	16	17	18	19
	Take note of new varieties Seed beets	Harvest okra pods every other day Install sod	Seed rutabagas Seed Asian greens	Watch for powdery mildew on pumpkins and winter squash	Seed radishes	Seed fall herbs
20	New Moon 21	22	23	24	25	26
		Seed bok choy Turn compost	Seed turnips	Plant collards	Seed lawn	
27	28	1 First Quarter 29	30	31	Mint's cooling effect p with all kinds of dishe Perhaps one of the m mint adds a fresh pop	s and cuisine styles. ost versatile herbs, o to savory dishes
W /	Apply nitrogen to strawberries	Seed arugula			and a sweet kick to id and chocolate desser	



TARRAGON

By Stephen Starcher, WVU Extension Agent - Hampshire County

Of the four "fines herbes" of French cuisine, none is more important than tarragon. The mild anise flavor of this herb pairs perfectly with fish, poultry and eggs and makes a subtle, yet delicious, addition to a variety of sauces, dressings and marinades. While native to northern Europe, Russia and parts of Asia, this plant has found its way into fine cuisine all over the world.

There are two main varieties available to the consumer — Russian tarragon and French tarragon. French tarragon is widely considered to be vastly superior for culinary uses. However, it rarely completely flowers; therefore, it does not produce viable seeds. Because of this, it is best to establish new plants by utilizing stem cuttings or transplants.

Growth

Tarragon grows as a perennial herbaceous shrub that will die back to the ground in winter. It performs best when planted in a sunny, well-drained portion of your garden, and is often watered. Tarragon will do well in a container, but care must be taken to prevent winterkill of the plant's roots. Hilling the containers into a pile of compost or mulch should offer sufficient winter protection. Tarragon has a chilling requirement of at least 30 days, so overwintering your plants indoors is not a good option. Healthy plants will respond well to division every two to three years.

Harvest and Use

The narrow, needle-like leaves of tarragon can be harvested by pinching one-third of the stem length multiple times per year. The intensity and quality of tarragon flavor is best fresh, but it can be dried for use during winter months. Utilizing this herb to flavor oils or vinegars is a common, and delicious, alternative to drying the herb.

SEPTEMBER

AUGUST									
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OCTOBER									
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29	30	31							

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					Order spring- flowering bulbs Seed fall carrots	Seed spinach Plant crocus Dig late potatoes Turn compost
3	Labor Day Renovate lawn or reseed bare spots Seed cover crop	Prepare root cellar Aerate lawn	Save seeds Seed lettuce for fall crop	Plant fall turnips and radishes Divide peonies Build a high tunnel	Build a cold frame Seed carrots in high tunnel or cold frame	Harvest early pumpkins Don't let weeds go to seed Plant hardy evergreens
10	11	12	① Last Quarter 13	14	15	16
	Patriot Day Control broadleaf weeds in lawn	Seed scallions (bunching onions) in a cold frame	Plant garden mums Harvest colored peppers	Begin pumpkin harvest Seed fall spinach	Begin 14 hours of darkness to turn color of poinsettias	Seed rye and hairy vetch for winter cover crop
17	18	19	New Moon 20	21	22	23
	Seed lettuce in high tunnel Repot houseplants	Take a fall soil test from lawn and garden	Plant shallots	Harvest early-planted sweet potatoes	Autumn Begins Water young trees and shrubs during dry periods	Seed salad greens in high tunnel
24	25	26	● First Quarter 27	28	29	30
	Plant hyacinths				Bring rosemary plants indoors before frost	



CHAMOMILE

By Brandy Brabham, WVU Extension Agent - Roane County

Chamomile's fragrant blossoms are best known as herbal tea additions. Roman chamomile is a perennial, creeping, ground cover plant that grows like a mat. German chamomile grows 20 to 30 inches tall and is a reseeding annual. Both have small, daisy-like flowers with yellow centers, white petals and feathery leaves.

Growth

From seed, direct sow in spring or fall. Chamomile seeds will germinate in approximately 7 to 14 days. Seeds can be started indoors for transplanting about six weeks before the last frost. Start chamomile in seed pots but don't bury the seeds under the soil, because they need light to sprout. Keep seedlings 12 to 18 inches apart and moist. Thin to one plant per pot after they start to grow. Keep seedlings in a sunny spot until it's time to plant and set transplants 6 inches apart outdoors.

For container growing, plant seeds directly in the final pot and keep indoors until after the frost. Each chamomile plant should have a 12-inch pot.

Chamomile grows best in sunny locations and well-drained soil but can survive in some shaded areas and poor to average soil. Once established, chamomile is extremely hardy. Most plants will flower about one month after planting and bloom all summer, so there isn't one specific harvest time.

Harvest and Use

Harvesting chamomile flowers is a tedious task. Fresh flowers can be used for tea, but it's more typical to dry them. Spread them out somewhere warm and well-ventilated indoors out of direct sunlight to thoroughly dry. Once dry, store flowers in a sealed container for use up to a year.

OCTOBER

SEPTEMBER					W.X	N	٥٧	EM	IBE	R		55	
S	M	т	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2				1	2	3	4
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
24	25	26	27	28	20	30	26	27	28	20	30		

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	○ Full Moon 5	6	Build a high tunnel Dig canna, dahlia, gladiolas and tubular begonias
8	Columbus Day Harvest sweet potatoes	Harvest green tomatoes and gourds before frost	Divide perennials Harvest late pumpkins before frost	Remove old crop residue and seed winter cover crop	Harvest winter squash	Store winter squash in cool, dry location
15	Plant multiplier or potato onions Plant spring bulbs	Plant or transplant lilies that flower July 15 – Sept. 15	Seed spinach for overwintering	New Moon 19	20	Prepare landscape bed for spring planting
22	Plant or transplant deciduous trees and shrubs after leaves drop	Save wildflower seeds for spring planting	Prune roses and root cuttings Mow lawn for last time	26	First Quarter 27 Plant garlic	Have garden soil tested
29	30	31		ower of the chamomile pla		

Halloween

Mulch greens

(chard, collards, etc.)

The tiny, yellow flower of the chamomile plant not only makes for an eye-catching centerpiece, but it is also a culinary staple in a variety of different cuisines. Infuse into tea or fresh lemonade for a floral note or incorporate into seafood dishes for a gentle, sweet flavor.

Fertilize lawn

according to soil test



By Jodi Richmond, WVU Extension Agent - Mercer County

Thyme can be grown as an ornamental ground cover or harvested for its aromatic leaves. The herb is easy to grow in the West Virginia climate and is available in a variety of species.

Growth

Thyme is drought tolerant, thriving in hot, sunny locations with loose, well-drained soil with a pH of 6.3. It is hardy in zones 5 to 9. While it can be grown in containers, it reaches a height of 12 inches and a width of 10 inches, so it takes up a large amount of room if raised indoors.

Thyme can be cultivated from seeds, stem cuttings or divided root sections. Plant seeds directly in the soil or establish from transplants, thinning seedlings to 6 inches apart. Keep seedlings moist until well-established, after which they will need little watering.

Harvest and Use

Snip off pieces of thyme as needed, or cut the entire plant off 2 inches above ground and strip leaves from the wire-like stems. The plant will then regrow to be harvested again.

Thyme can be dried on the stem, or leaves can be dried on a cookie sheet or in a dehydrator. Store dried thyme in an airtight container in a dark area. Dried thyme has a concentrated flavor; therefore, you only need one-third to one-fourth as much dried thyme as fresh in a recipe.

Fresh or dried thyme can be preserved in a vinegar or oil solution for seasoning vegetables, meats and salads. The herb works well in a mixed herbal vinegar of fresh rosemary, parsley and thyme. Fresh thyme leaves can also be mixed with your favorite butter or margarine.

NOVEMBER

OCTOBER								
S	M	Т	W	T	F	S		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
8	9	10	11	12	13	14		
15	16	17	18	19	20	21		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28		
00	00	04						

DECEMBER									
S	M	T	W	T	F	S			
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3	4	5	6	7	8	9			
10	11	12	13	14	15	16			
17	18	19	20	21	22	23			
24	25	26	27	28	29	30			
31									

						31
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	○ Full Moon 4
						Remove stakes and trellises
5	6	7	8	9	① Last Quarter 10	11
Daylight Saving Time Ends	Mulch carrots for winter use	Fertilize under deciduous trees and shrubs Turn compost	Water trees and shrubs thoroughly if fall has been dry	Remove diseased plant debris from garden	Apply lime and fertilizer according to soil test	Veterans Day Winterize garden tools
12	13	14	15	16	17	New Moon 18
	Harvest parsnips	Harvest Brussels sprouts	Mulch strawberries	Mulch thyme plants before winter		Turn compost
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
_	Mulch perennial beds	Harvest salad greens from high tunnel	Cut hardy chrysanthemums to 2 or 3 inches and mulch	Thanksgiving Day	Mulch perennial herbs	Fertilize houseplants
First Quarter 26	27	28	29	30	Fresh thyme is a culin its woodsy quality lend roasted meats, soups as an aromatic, used delicious smell as it is	ds itself naturally to and stews. It doubles iust as much for its



ROSEMARY

By Jennifer Williams, WVU Extension Service Associate Dean

Known throughout the early Greek and Roman Empire for aiding memory, rosemary was often worn as a garland by scholars during examinations. Rosemary was also thought to symbolize loyalty, love, friendship and remembrance when worn by brides.

December is a month of giving, and this happy herb certainly gives in a very aromatic way. Rosemary makes a wonderful gift. Buy plants in the spring and shape them during the growing season into holiday trees or some other fun, interesting form. Your loved ones will enjoy the fragrant gift long after the holiday season has ended.

Growth

Rosemary thrives in well-drained, sandy soil and a warm, humid environment. It cannot tolerate extremely cold temperatures and is best planted in containers that can be brought indoors during the winter months. If left outdoors, make sure plants are covered during extreme cold.

Harvest and Use

Harvest only well-established plants with peak flavor, which occurs right before flowering. Cut stems and strip the fresh leaves. Alternatively, rosemary can be dried by hanging the stems upside down in a dark, well-vented area. Once dry, strip the leaves and store in an airtight container.

As a pungent herb, rosemary pairs well with poultry, fish, beef, lamb and a variety of vegetables. However, it should be used sparingly as not to overpower the other flavors in the dish. After removing the needle-like leaves, the woody stems make good skewers for both meat and vegetables.

Rosemary can also be frozen in ice cube trays with water or olive oil and stored in the freezer. Drop the frozen cubes into soups or stews for added flavor.

DECEMBER

NOVEMBER				JA	N	UA	RY						
s	M	т	w	т	F	s	s	М	T	w	т	F	s
			1	2	3	4		1	2	3	4	5	6
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
26	27	28	29	30			28	29	30	31			

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					Turn compost Protect shrubs from harsh weather Mulch hybrid roses	Select cut Christmas tree with flexible needles
○ Full Moon 3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Overwinter spinach and Swiss chard	Mulch perennial herbs	Begin harvest of high tunnel carrots and lettuce	Buy live Christmas tree	
① Last Quarter 10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	Turn compost	Hanukkah Begins	Harvest Brussels sprouts			
17	New Moon 18	19	20	21	22	23
			Hanukkah Ends	Winter Begins		
24	25	● First Quarter 26	27	28	29	30
New Year's Eve	Christmas Day	Plant live Christmas tree				

HERB VARIETY CHART—



BASIL (Asian) (Annual) Varieties for Gardens: Sweet Thai; Cinnamon; Holy



BASIL (Citrus) (Annual) Varieties for Gardens: Lime; Mrs. Burns' Lemon



BASIL (Purple) (Annual) Varieties for Gardens: Dark Opal; Red Rubin; Purple Ruffles; Osmin



BASIL (Sweet) (Annual) Varieties for Gardens: Eleonora: Genovese: Genovese-compact; Aroma2; Emily



ANISE HYSSOP (Tender Perennial) Varieties for Gardens: Anise Hyssop



BORAGE (Annual) Varieties for Gardens: **Borage**



CHAMOMILE (Annual/Perennial) Varieties for Gardens: Common; Roman



CHERVIL (Annual) Varieties for Gardens: Vertissimo



CHIVES (Perennial) Varieties for Gardens: Dolores; Purly; Staro



CILANTRO (Annual) Varieties for Gardens: Calypso; Santo



CELERY (Cutting) (Annual) Varieties for Gardens: **Cutting Celery**





LEAF FENNEL (Tender Perennial) Varieties for Gardens: Bronze; Bronze and Green



LAVENDER (Perennial) Varieties for Gardens: **Elegance Purple**



LEMON BALM (Perennial) Varieties for Gardens: Lemon Balm



Varieties for Gardens: East Indian



LOVAGE (Perennial) Varieties for Gardens: Lovage



MARJORAM (Tender Perennial) Varieties for Gardens: **Sweet Marjoram**



MINT (Perennial) Varieties for Gardens: **Common Mint**



OREGANO (Perennial) Varieties for Gardens: Greek Oregano



PARSLEY (Leaf) (Biennial) Varieties for Gardens: Giant of Italy; Titan



ROSEMARY (Tender Perennial) Varieties for Gardens: Rosemary



SAGE (Perennial) Varieties for Gardens: Common Sage; Pineapple



SAVORY (Annual/Perennial) Varieties for Gardens: Summer Savory; Winter Savory



THYME (Perennial) Varieties for Gardens: German Winter; Lemon Thyme

CONTROLLING GARDEN PEST

Careful attention to all pests, including diseases, insects and weeds, is vital for gardening success. Instead of controlling them separately, control all three for a more effective, long-term solution throughout the year. Here are our expert recommendations for healthier plants, better yields and less stress for you, the grower.







JANUARY

Plan for preventative strategies to manage pests in gardens.

FEBRUARY

If you are keeping your own seeds, treat them with hot water or a sodium hypochlorite solution to manage seedborne diseases.

MARCH

Buy treated seeds or resistant varieties if available.

Conduct primary tillage after soil has thawed and let it fallow. Monitor oregano for aphids and spider mites. Apply appropriate control methods.

APRIL

Fumigate soil if nematode count is high or if there has been a past pest problem.

Establish herb gardens in soil free of perennial weeds.

Monitor cilantro for caterpillars.

Avoid seeding in moist soil and ensure proper drainage to reduce damping off or foot rot of seedlings.

Till after weed seedlings have emerged and apply mulch prior to weed germination. Landscape fabric may be installed for perennial herbs.

Monitor thyme for spider mites. Apply appropriate control measures.

JUNE

Use drip or trickle irrigation rather than overhead sprinklers to reduce the spread of foliar herb diseases.

Remove young and actively growing weeds with a hoe or by hand. Use carfentrazone to control annual broadleaf weeds and clopyralid to control broadleaf weeds in mint and spearmint.

Monitor sweet basil for Japanese beetles. Control by hand removal or appropriately labeled insecticides.

JULY

Monitor cilantro, tarragon and basil for downy mildew.

Young, actively growing grassy-weeds can be controlled by applying clethodim. Keep the garden's outer edge free of weeds.

Monitor parsley for caterpillars.

AUGUST

Monitor for rust pustules on mint leaves. Minimize overhead irrigation and apply azoxystrobin fungicide. Prune overgrown canopies to facilitate quick drying and sunlight penetration.

Dig up entire perennial weeds' root systems to destroy them. Monitor rosemary for aphids and spider mites. Apply appropriate control measures.

SEPTEMBER

Establish crucifer cover crop for managing soilborne pathogens. Carefully apply glyphosate to emerged perennial weeds. Be sure to avoid contact with the herbs.

OCTOBER

Remove all crop debris and infected leaves from the field to minimize the risk of disease for the next crop.

NOVEMBER

Review the diseases that occurred during the season and develop a rotation plan. Explore availability of disease-resistant varieties.

DECEMBER

Prune diseased twigs and burn them to reduce the source of infection on next year's growth.

Lavender Roasted Potatoes

Makes 6 servings

½ teaspoon salt

Ingredients:

2½ pounds thin-skinned potatoes (such as new or red)

1½ tablespoons olive oil

1 tablespoon dried lavender (designated for culinary use)

1/4 teaspoon black pepper

- over -



Grilled Pork Tenderloin with Oregano

Makes 6 to 8 servings

Ingredients:

2 pounds pork tenderloin

1/4 cup lemon juice

2 tablespoons fresh oregano, chopped

(or 2 teaspoons dried)

1 tablespoon olive oil

½ teaspoon salt

1/4 teaspoon black pepper



over -



Avocado Lime Salad Dressing with Cilantro

Makes 10 servings (2 tablespoons per serving)

Ingredients:

1 avocado

½ cup plain fat-free Greek yogurt

1/4 cup lime juice

1/4 cup fresh cilantro, chopped

1 to 2 cloves garlic

2 tablespoons olive oil

2 tablespoons white vinegar (can substitute apple cider vinegar or white wine vinegar)

½ teaspoon salt

½ teaspoon black pepper



Garden-fresh Pasta Salad

Makes 6 servings

Ingredients:

½ pound whole-wheat pasta (such as penne, fusilli, shells or bow-tie) 2 pints cherry tomatoes, halved

12 large fresh basil leaves, thinly sliced

3 cloves garlic, minced

1 tablespoon olive oil

½ teaspoon salt

½ teaspoon black pepper

½ cup grated Parmesan cheese (1½ to 2 ounces)



EXTENSIONSERVICE

19 fiber, 120mg sodium.

smooth.

Directions:

EXTENSIONSERVICE

(Adapted from www.foodnetwork.com)

5g fiber, 340mg sodium.

Nutrition information per serving: 220 calones; 6g fat; 33g carbohydrate; 9g protein;

3. Add pasta and Parmesan cheese. Toss gently before serving. Let stand 30 minutes to marinate.

2. In a large bowl, mix tomatoes, basil, garlic, olive oil, salt and pepper.

1. Cook pasta according to package directions. Rinse with cold water



Nutrition information per serving: 70 calories; 6g fat; 3g carbohydrate; 2g protein;

1. Place all ingredients in a blender or food processor. Blend until

EXTENSIONSERVICE

(Adapted from www.boulderlocavore.com)

(Moa.evilife.com)

49 fiber, 210mg sodium.

Nutrition information per serving: 180 calories; 3.5g fat; 33g carbohydrate; 4g protein; stirring halfway through to ensure even browning.

4. Spread into a single layer on a baking sheet. Bake for 30 minutes, add lavender, salt and pepper.

3. Toss potatoes in a bowl with olive oil. When potatoes are coated, knife, remove eyes and/or brown spots. Cut into bite-sized pieces.

2. Scrub potatoes well to remove any dirt. Do not peel. With a paring

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees Fahrenheit.

Directions:

EXTENSIONSERVICE

(Adapted from www.goodhousekeeping.com)

.muibos gm05.2 230mg sodium.

Nutrition information per serving: 180 calories, 79 fat, 19 carbohydrate, 279 protein,

3 minutes. Slice thinly and serve.

145 degrees Fahrenheit. Remove to a platter and let meat rest for at least Test tenderloin with a meat thermometer to ensure internal temperature reaches 3. Place tenderloin on a grill over medium heat and cook about 20 minutes.

salt, pepper and remaining oregano. Massage mixture all over tenderloin. 2. Remove tenderloin from bag and discard marinade. In a small bowl, mix olive oil, pressing out excess air. Refrigerate tenderloin for 30 minutes.

tresh oregano (or 1 teaspoon dried). Add tenderloin, turning to coat. Seal bag, 1. In a 1-gallon resealable plastic bag, combine lemon juice with 1 tablespoon

Directions:

Cheddar Chive Biscuits

Makes 12 servings (1 biscuit per serving)

Ingredients:

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 4 teaspoons baking powder
- 2 tablespoons granulated sugar
- 1 cup reduced-fat shredded cheddar cheese
- ½ cup chives, chopped
- 1/3 cup canola oil
- 34 cup skim milk



- over -

– over –

White Bean and Parsley Dip

Makes 8 servings

Ingredients:

1 15-ounce can cannellini beans (or other white beans), drain and reserve liquid

2 tablespoons olive oil

1 to 2 tablespoons reserved liquid

from canned beans

½ cup fresh parsley, chopped

2 cloves garlic

2 tablespoons lemon juice

½ teaspoon salt

1/4 teaspoon black pepper

over -



Cucumber, Tomato and Mint Salad

Makes 6 servings

Ingredients:

- 1/3 cup red wine vinegar
- 1 tablespoon granulated sugar
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon black pepper
- 2 large cucumbers, peeled, seeded and chopped
- 3 large tomatoes, seeded and chopped
- ½ cup red onion, chopped
- ½ cup fresh mint, chopped
- 1 tablespoon olive oil



White Fish with Tarragon Sauce Makes 4 servings

Ingredients:

1 to 1½ pounds white fish (such as cod, sole, tilapia, etc.), cut into 4 equal fillets

- ½ teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon black pepper 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 tablespoon butter
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice
- 2 tablespoons fresh tarragon, chopped





EXTENSIONSERVICE

(Adapted from www.allrecipes.com)

2g fiber, 200mg sodium.

Nutrition information per serving: 60 calones; 2.5g fat; 10g carbohydrate; 2g protein; cucumbers.

2. Gently toss tomatoes, onion, mint and olive oil with the marinated Mix in cucumbers and marinate 1 hour, stirring occasionally.

1. In a large bowl, combine vinegar, sugar, salt and pepper.

EXTENSIONSERVICE

(Adapted from www.food.com)

.muibos gm0ss 330mg sodium.

Nutrition information per serving: 160 calones; 6g fat; 1g carbohydrate; 24g protein;

30 seconds or until the sauce is warm. Pour sauce over fish and serve. 3. Add butter, lemon juice and tarragon to skillet and stir gently for about

145 degrees Fahrenheit. Remove fish to a platter. with a meat thermometer to ensure internal temperature reaches bottom. Turn and cook an additional 3 to 5 minutes. Test each fillet Place fish in the skillet and cook 3 to 5 minutes or until brown on the 2. In a large skillet or frying pan, heat olive oil over medium-high heat.

1. Season both sides of fish fillets with salt and pepper.



EXTENSIONSERVICE

5g protein, 260 mg sodium.

Nutrition information per serving: 170 calories, 8g fat, 20g carbohydrate, 1g fiber,

4. Bake 15 to 20 minutes or until golden brown.

thick. Cut out with a biscuit cutter. Place on an ungreased baking sheet. surface and knead gently six to eight times. Roll or pat to ¾ to 1 inch gently to form a soft ball of dough. Turn out onto a lightly floured work 3. Make a well in the center of the mixture and add oil and milk. Stir

Stir in grated cheddar cheese and chives.

2. Sift flour, baking powder and sugar together in a mixing bowl.

1. Preheat oven to 425 degrees Fahrenheit.

EXTENSIONSERVICE

eg fiber, 250mg sodium.

Nutrition information per serving: 100 calories; 3.5g fat; 11g carbohydrate; 4g protein;

3. Serve with sliced fresh vegetables or whole-grain crackers for dipping. from the canned beans. Process again until the liquid is incorporated.

2. If the mixture is too thick, add 1 to 2 tablespoons of the reserved liquid 1. Combine all ingredients in a food processor. Process until smooth.

Directions:

Chamomile Cantaloupe Smoothie Makes 4 servings Ingredients: 4 cups cantaloupe, chopped 2 cups vanilla soy milk (can use almond or rice milk) 1 tablespoon dried chamomile flowers (or 2 tablespoons fresh) 1 cup ice cubes

over -

– over -

Lemon Thyme Chicken Burgers

Makes 4 servings

Ingredients:

1 pound ground chicken breast or ground turkey breast

2 tablespoons fresh thyme, chopped

Zest of 1 lemon (about 2 teaspoons)

½ cup breadcrumbs or cracker crumbs

2 teaspoons Dijon mustard

1 tablespoon lemon juice

4 whole-wheat rolls 1 egg, lightly beaten

1/4 cup onion, minced

1/4 teaspoon pepper

8 tomato slices

8 large lettuce leaves ½ teaspoon salt (optional)

- over -





Crisp Rosemary Flatbread Crackers

Makes 12 servings (2 crackers per serving)

Ingredients:

1 cup all-purpose flour

3/4 cup whole-wheat flour

1 teaspoon baking powder

34 teaspoon salt

2 tablespoons fresh rosemary, coarsely chopped

(or 2 to 3 teaspoons dried)

½ cup water

1/3 cup olive oil

Nonstick baking spray



EXTENSIONSERVICE

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– over –

A EXTENSIONSERVICE	•

(Adapted from the Washington Post, from Gourmet, July 2008)

19 fiber, 190mg sodium.

- Nutrition information per serving: 100 calories, 5g fat, 14g carbohydrate, 2g protein, 7. Bake for 4 to 6 minutes or until lightly browned. Transfer to a wire rack to cool.
 - 6. Repeat step 5 for each of the remaining pieces of dough.
 - with nonstick spray. Prick each piece of dough several times with a tork.
- into a circle or oval about 5 inches across. Place dough onto a baking sheet coated 5. Divide the first piece of dough into four equal pieces. With a rolling pin, roll each piece bieces conered with plastic wrap.
- 4. Divide the dough into six equal pieces. Work with one piece at a time and keep the other dough together into a soft, smooth ball.
 - 3. Turn dough out onto a work surface and gently knead four to five times to bring the until a shaggy dough forms.
 - a mixing bowl. Make a well in the center. Add the water and olive oil, gradually stirring
 - 2. Sift together all-purpose flour, whole-wheat flour, baking powder, salt and rosemary in 1. Preheat oven to 450 degrees Fahrenheit.

Directions:

Morgantown, WV 26501-1650

PO BOX 1650

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EXTENSIONSERVICE

(Adapted from www.metronews.ca)

49 fiber, 480mg sodium

Nutrition information per serving: 300 calories, 5g fat, 34g carbohydrate, 33g protein, tomato, it desired.

3. Serve each burger on a whole-wheat roll topped with lettuce and to ensure internal temperature reaches 165 degrees Fahrenheit. 5 to 6 minutes per side. lest each patty with a meat thermometer

2. Preheat grill or large skillet to medium-high. Cook patties for about combined. Form mixture into 4 patties of equal size.

and lettuce. With clean hands, gently mix until all ingredients are 1. In a large bowl, place all ingredients except whole-wheat rolls, tomato

Directions:

(Adapted from www.sweetroots.blogspot.com)

Zg fiber, 100mg sodium

EXTENSIONSERVICE

Nutrition information per serving: 130 calories, 2.5g fat, 25g carbohydrate, 5g protein, 1. Place all ingredients together in a blender and process until smooth.









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