

Parsley

Often described as the most frequently served but rarely eaten of herbs because of its frequent use as a plate garnish, parsley is great in a lot of foods. Add some to buttered potatoes for a great, easy dish.

You will do best to start your parsley in the fall. Since parsley is a biennial plant you can grow it through the summer if you give it some pretty good afternoon shade and keep it well watered. Not soaking wet -- well watered. And since it will last two years, plant one plant this year and another one next year so that when your older plant dies at the end of its second year, you will already have a replacement.

There are two general varieties of parsley—Italian or flat leafed and French or curly leafed. I find curly leafed gives me more foliage. Parsley is easily grown from seed and is very cold hardy in our climate. It will grow to 18 inches and should be protected from afternoon sun in summer.

Parsley can have problems with root maggots in this area.

