

Rue

(*Ruta graveolens*)



Season: Spring - Perennial

Sun Exposure: Partial sun

Size: 2 ft. tall

Blooms: Produces small yellow flowers from June to September.

Maintenance Category: Low. Rue grows just about in all places. However, it flourishes in somewhat protected and arid conditions.

Highlights: An evergreen shrub with striking, blue-green foliage that bears small yellow flowers. Lobe-like leaves emit such an intense smell, rarely does one forget it. It can be propagated with seeds or cuttings and has the capability to survive for long periods even in unfavorable conditions.

Caution** When working with or next to rue, gardeners should be careful of rubbing up next to the plant. This plant's intense oils, when released and warmed by the sun, can produce burns. We strongly recommend using gloves when handling this plant.

How to Use: Due to its smell, it was used in ancient times to ward off the plague. Today it is predominately used as a medicinal herb. It can be used in teas with a little honey to aid congestion and bronchitis. Helps to calm and aid with menstrual issues. Dried and crushed leaves can also be used on insect bites. Its horrible scent repels cats from using your garden as a "litterbox."