

ANOTHER
HERB HERBERT
FACT SHEET

SPECIAL INTEREST HERBS

GOURMET VEGETABLES

'ROYALTY PURPLE' BEAN

Phaseolus vulgaris



DESCRIPTION

Royalty Purple Beans definitely live up to their name! Royalty

Purple Beans are of a vibrant purple color making them much easier to see and therefore harvest and pick compared to other green bean varieties. The color of the vegetables also makes gardening more interesting for children. Perhaps more interesting still is the fact that the beans turn green upon cooking. This means the beans have a natural built in timer when blanching or boiling! This particular variety of bean has purple flowers and short runners. The plant itself produces annual, bright purple pods that grow to approximately 6in/15cm long. The pods are straight and round.



USES

The Royalty Purple Bean is a very nutritious vegetable and is great as a part of any healthy diet. Royalty Purple Beans can be eaten either fresh or cooked. When prepared raw, the beans will maintain their purple color. This looks great in salads and when used as a garnish as the color of the beans is so rich and vibrant. Generally, raw beans are best when immature and can be tossed through fresh salads or eaten on their own as a snack. Royalty Purple beans can also be blanched, although they will turn a pale green color within 2

minutes. The beans are also said to be great when sauteed, boiled, steamed, stir fried or micro waved.



GROWTH

Royalty Purple Bean plants produce vigorous yield of 6in/15cm pods. They tend to grow best in moist, sandy soil with moderate fertilization and full sunlight. The plant itself will reach a height of 5ft/1.5m.



Royalty beans should be planted approximately 1-2in/2.5-5cm deep.



CULTIVATION

Royalty Purple beans are generally ready for harvest when they are 6in/15cm long. They should be picked every 5 to 7 days as the plant will stop producing pods at such a rapid rate if the harvest is delayed and the pods are able to mature. When choosing which pods to harvest, look for beans that are firm, crisp and fully elongated, but do not have fully developed seeds. Pods should also be picked when they are completely dry, as picking beans when the plant is wet can increase the spread of disease. The beans should be stored in a cool dry area once harvested. For more cultural help see our Organic Garden fact sheets under the 'Special Interest' section of the pull down menu on the home page of our website.



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