

# CULINARIS

Wholesome Seed for healthy Food



Organic Seeds for Home and Market Gardeners

- Tomatoes
- Kale & Co.
  - Early & Winter Salad
  - *Brassica* Cutting Greens
- Sweet Peppers & Chili Peppers
- Nursery Crops for Transplant Production
  - Flowers

2016 Catalog

# CULINARIS – Wholesome Seed for healthy Food

We are a young organic seed breeding initiative offering a carefully curated selection of varieties that thrive under low-input conditions, including homestead and hobby gardens. Market gardeners will find many suitable options among the CULINARIS selection. In addition, we provide a diversity of varieties especially well suited for nurseries that market transplants.

We chose our varieties, which include rarities and entirely new selections, because they prove themselves as standouts during rigorous trialing. Many have been privately maintained for years and were commercially unavailable, while some were discovered in seed banks, and yet others were developed in the context of research projects.

To find out more about our work and our partner organizations, please visit our homepage: [www.CULINARIS-saatgut.de](http://www.CULINARIS-saatgut.de).

A key area of our breeding work is the development of outdoor tomatoes varieties. We are happy to report that over the past few years, the results of our work have flourished, once again enabling gardeners north of the Alps to successfully grow tomatoes out of doors!

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We wish you a great transition into the new growing season!

Your CULINARIS team,



Katharina Diermayer, Moritz Halekotte, Bernd Horneburg, Vera Jakobi, and Max Rehberg

## Tomatoes

(Lycopersicon esculentum)

### Taste diversity!

We all know it: The basic round, red supermarket tomato. It looks pretty good, keeps for ages, can be put to myriad uses, and it tastes...a little like cardboard.

We've got much higher expectations of our own plants. We want to harvest outstanding tomatoes with mouth-watering flavor. We are pleased to share 8 winners with you here.

Crisp and juicy, **Auriga's** fresh taste toes the line between sweet and tart, making this a great tomato to eat like an apple or add to a salad.

**Dorada** and **Primavera** are fruity and sweet; their delicate skin and soft flesh practically melts in the mouth. Both are perfect for eating straight off the vine.

Pleasantly tart and crisp, mild flavored **Clou** is an irresistible multi-purpose tomato.

A sweet tooth's first choice is **Black Cherry**, an especially sugary tomato with a uniquely tangy aroma.

**Green Zebra** is one of our top picks for salads: Zesty with a slight touch of tartness, brilliant green skin and flesh, and a delightful aroma.

With blushing cheeks and starburst leaves, **Resi** is easy on the eyes and superstar of taste with its exotic, fruity aroma. Trust us, you'll want to show off your harvest!

If the flavor of raw tomatoes isn't for you, try **Striped Cavern**, a lovely, mild, and uniquely hollow tomato, perfect for stuffing with just about anything that delights your taste buds.

Our tip: Growing a diversity of tomato varieties in your garden doesn't just broaden your flavor experience, it also extends your tomato season, gives you more cooking and eating options, and greatly reduces the risk of diseases wiping out your crop.

More information's in the following chapters.



Auriga 65g



Dorada 25g



Primavera 25g



Green Zebra 120g



Clou 35g



Resi 20g



Black Cherry 25g



Striped Cavern 115g

# CULINARIS – Wholesome Seed for healthy Food

## New Varieties - Cooperatively Selected

These ORGANIC varieties were exclusively grown outdoors<sup>1</sup> and selected in cooperation with amateur and market gardeners, nursery growers, researchers and extension agents, as well as other professionals from the seed industry. They have been admitted to the European Union's Plant Varieties Catalogue as amateur varieties and are therefore available on the market.

These varieties are resistant to Late Blight (*Phytophthora infestans*) and boast an impressive fruit quality—two attributes that don't always come together. They can be grown successfully with only small amounts of fertilizer and require less water than most tomatoes. Cultivation in pots or planters is possible.

Classic Red

***Primavera***

*Fruit weight 25g*

Luminous, red-orange fruit that melt in the mouth. Especially juicy and fruity-sweet.

Early ripening.

Robust, mid-sized plant with average foliage density.

Strong, compact seedlings.



Classic Yellow

***Dorada***

*Fruit weight 25g*

Irresistible golden-yellow fruit, resistant to cracking. Especially juicy and fruity-sweet.

Early ripening.

Robust, mid-sized plant with average foliage density.

Strong, compact seedlings.



This one's got bite!

***Clou***

*Fruit weight 35g*

Crisp, juicy yellow fruit with mild, pleasantly tart flavor. Great multi-purpose fruit.

Early ripening.

Healthy plant with loose foliage, potato-leaf type.

Large, strong seedlings.



<sup>1</sup> Information about the organic Outdoor Tomato Project: <http://www.uni-goettingen.de/de/48392.html> and: <http://www.culinaris-saatgut.de/infos-links/>



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Candy

***Primabella***

*Fruit weight 30g*

**Highest  
*Phytophthora*  
tolerance!**

Aromatic cocktail tomato with well-balanced sweet and tart flavor. Firm, red fruit hang in pretty clusters on the vine.

Mid-season ripening.

Robust plant with a vigorous growth habit and dark green foliage.

Firm fruit do well in storage and during transport, and are therefore well suited for market gardeners.

Compact seedlings.



For several years now, **Resi** has been the standout variety in all of our long-term field trials. It has also been admitted to the EU catalog as an amateur variety.

The Standout

***Resi***

*Fruit weight 20g*



Generous, dark green foliage and a slender stature give this plant a certain ornamental flair. Though yields of Resi's aromatic, scarlet fruit can be slightly less plentiful than other varieties, the length of the harvest makes up for it.

Very robust.

Compact, sap green seedling.



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## Wild tomato or Currant tomato (*Lycopersicon pimpinellifolium*)

These are pretty close to the original tomato! Dainty, with boundless energy to grow, the best of their kind also boast the following qualities:

- Robustness (as long as there is plenty of airflow and sun)
- Low fertilizer and water needs
- Generous amounts of fruit
- Great for children
- Can be grown creatively as an ornamental feature, for e.g. in buckets on the balcony

Not suitable for trellising!

### **Rote Murrel**

#### **Red Marble**

*Fruit weight 2g*

Blushing pinky-red, soft, and sweet, these tiny fruit are calling out to be snacked on.

Very compact, vigorous seedlings.

Higher temperature needed during germination!



### **Golden Currant**

*Fruit weight 6g*

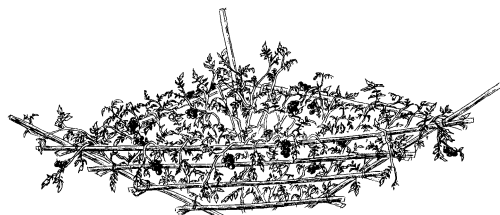
Sweet, cherry-sized fruit are a joy for big and small!

Very compact, vigorous seedlings.



### Growing Info

Wild tomatoes need plenty of space to spread. They are at their best beside a fence, wall, or along a path. Arrange bamboo stakes as supports in the home garden, or use the "Göttinger System" (see picture) for the market garden<sup>2</sup>.



<sup>2</sup> More information: <http://www.culinaris-saatgut.de/infos-links/>

# CULINARIS – Wholesome Seed for healthy Food

## Diversity for the Home Garden

These varieties have withstood the test of time in a number of locations, under distinct growing conditions, not only outdoors. They're a standard hit in the home garden - we recommend a mix.

### The High Fliers **Cerise yellow<sup>3</sup>**

*Fruit weight 20g*

Vigorous and robust plant with curling leaves typical of the variety. Harvest period for this mild, juicy cocktail tomato is notably long.



### **& Cerise red<sup>3</sup>**

*Fruit weight 25g*

Vigorous and robust plant with curling leaves typical of the variety. Harvest period for this mild, juicy cocktail tomato is notably long.



### Red Teardrop **Celsior<sup>3</sup>**

*Fruit weight 12g*

This mid-size plant bears extraordinary cocktail tomatoes. Best yields occur during the second half of the season. Great taste and beautiful firm, juicy consistency - a perfect addition for the fall.



### Old Faithful **Matina**

*Fruit weight 60g*

Matina is a reliable stand out with lovely potato-leaf foliage and bountiful yields. Thanks to prompt ripening, good early season yields can be expected. Further yields are weather-dependent. Classic salad tomato, sweet and juicy.



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Classic Italian  
**De Berao**

*Fruit weight 80g*

Robust plants with elongated, oval red fruit. A great cooking tomato, perfect for soups, sauces, ketchups, and anything else that will preserve this tomato's flavor for the winter.



The Newbie  
**Red Zora<sup>3</sup>**

*Fruit weight 100g*

This tomato mixes things up with its sumptuous, elongated raspberry-red fruit, and elegant, pinnate leaves. Beautiful in the garden and on the plate. Mild, aromatic flavor, perfect for salads and cooking.



Through rose-colored  
glasses...

**Pepper-shaped<sup>3</sup>**

*Fruit weight 200g*

This variety's diminutive growth habit does nothing to slow down the bountiful production of heavy, ribbed fruit. Early-season harvests are very reliable, late-season harvests strongly weather-dependent. Mild and aromatic. Also well suited for growing under cover, and therefore popular with market gardeners wanting to expand their heirloom availability.



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<sup>3</sup> Seeds of this variety are considered to be seeds for research purposes under the EU's plant reproductive material legislation ("Saatgut für Forschungszwecke" nach §43 der Saatgutverordnung).



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### Determinate (bush) Tomatoes

***Traditional diversity for your balcony!***

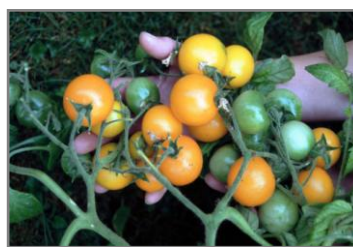
- Easy growing in 5-10 liter pots on the balcony, deck, or under cover in a greenhouse.
- Determinate growth eliminated the need for pruning.

Grown together, even the youngest bush tomatoes present a lovely array of **contrasting leaves and fruit**. Enjoy good yields and a **long harvest**.

#### ***Ida Gold***

Masses of glowing golden-orange fruit and an early harvest make these tasty cocktail tomatoes a favorite.

*Fruit weight 30g*



#### ***Fuzzy Wuzzy***

The name's the game: Gray-green leaves covered in soft down, and pointy, crimson fruit with golden stripes characterize this showpiece variety.

*Fruit weight 30g*



#### ***Tigerette Cherry***

Lime-colored leaves compete for attention with lemon-yellow fruit. Compact growth habit, juicy and flavorful fruit.

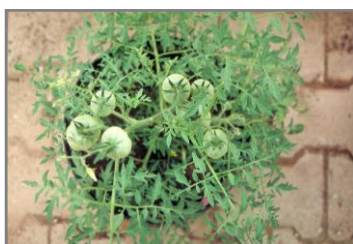
*Fruit weight 35g*



#### ***Silbertanne (Silvery Fir Tree)***

Big, juicy, beefsteak-type tomatoes provide a striking contrast to Silver Fir's shimmering, filigree foliage.

*Fruit weight 120g*



## CULINARIS – Wholesome Seed for healthy Food

### Colorful Heirloom Tomatoes

We recommend growing these vibrant **heritage varieties** trellised and under cover in the greenhouse.

We grow these tomatoes in field under a small cover with limited fertilizer and no irrigation, and selected them based on their high performance, robust health, and outstanding flavor.

#### **Green Zebra**

*Fruit weight 120g*

Glowing fruit are mottled bright green and yellow when ripe. A great salad tomato with mild acidity and full aroma.

Compact plants with average growth.

A great variety for the market garden.



#### **Sliwovidnij**

*Fruit weight 10g*

Fan-like inflorescences bear masses of succulent, oval yellow fruit.

Sweet and slightly tart, these are the perfect snacking choice. Generous growth habit, also does nicely in planters.

Harvest whole branches of unripe fruit before a frost and hang them indoors to ripen.



#### **Roi Humbert Jaune<sup>4</sup>**

*Fruit weight 65g*

Delightful oval yellow fruit show a slight blush of green until they are just ripe.

Vigorous growth habit.



<sup>4</sup> Seeds of this variety are considered to be seeds for research purposes under the EU's plant reproductive material legislation ("Saatgut für Forschungszwecke" nach §43 der Saatgutverordnung).

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### ***Auriga***

*Fruit weight 65g*

Orange fruit that appears lit up from the inside. Sweet and sour fruity flavor and firm skin. A lovely salad tomato.

Average growth habit.



### ***Black Cherry***

*Fruit weight 23g*

Cocktail tomato with a wonderful fragrance and lovely, soft flesh. Transparent skin and purple-red flesh.

Vigorous growth habit.

A winner in the market garden.



### ***Black Plum***

*Fruit weight 45g*

Squat, oval fruit with elegant dark red flesh are predestined for sauces, soups, or pastes. Also do nicely in salads.

Strong, robust plants.



### ***Paul Robson***

*Fruit weight 105g*

A dark red salad tomato with soft flesh and a unique, captivating aroma.

Vigorous growth habit with loose foliage.

A great variety for the market garden.





## CULINARIS – Wholesome Seed for healthy Food

Two truly **exclusive rarities!** These gorgeous varieties are a hit at the farmers market, add a touch of fancy to an elegant meal, and will no doubt find themselves being admired by the neighbors across the garden fence. Both varieties were bred and admitted as EU amateur varieties by us.

### Stuffing tomato ***Striped Cavern***

*Fruit weight 115g*



What makes these lovely, square fruit special is that they are practically hollow inside! Cut open the top of the mottled red-yellow fruit, scoop out the seeds, and fill it up with something delicious.

Plants are very healthy with a vigorous growth habit.

Great yields make them suitable for the market garden, too.



### True black! ***Indigo Rose***

*Fruit weight 50g*

**Absolutely  
unique!**

Salad tomato with a slightly spicy aroma. Fruit turn a spectacular black early on in their growth, with an added dark purple blush upon ripening.

High anthocyanin content.

Good yields at late ripening.

Average growth habit.

Avoid exceedingly high temperatures!





## Sweet Peppers and Chili Peppers

(*Capsicum spec.*)

Peppers offer an incredible array of colors, shapes, flavors, and levels of heat.

Over the course of two years of trials, we grew over 50 varieties and tested them for their ability to thrive under low-input conditions in pots as well as in the field.

One sweet pepper and one chili pepper have made it into our permanent collection so far.

Sweet Pepper

***Roter Augsburger***

***Red Augsburger***

Pointed, glowing, sweet red fruit.

Can be grown under cover in a greenhouse or outdoors.

Ripens early!

From our cooperation with ARCHE NOAH<sup>5</sup>.



Chili Pepper

***Prairie Fire***

A fiery hot chili pepper with great flavor and pleasant texture. Well suited for cooking or preserving. Real chili lovers might even enjoy this one raw!

Small, squat, and bushy plant, covered in upright fruit, which turn from matte-yellow to dark red as they ripen.

Pleasing to the eye and highly productive, this plant does well in the garden, in a pot, or on the windowsill.



<sup>5</sup> [www.arche-noah.at](http://www.arche-noah.at)

## Kale & Co.

(*Brassica oleracea* var. *sabellica*)

### Three Marvelous Varieties of Curly Kale

These kale varieties got their start as part of a project at the University of Göttingen<sup>6</sup> aimed at widening the spectrum of available vegetable varieties. The goal is to include more colors, shapes, and flavors. Selected varieties are not only standout specimens, but grow with little water and fertilizer, and possess an above-average degree of winter hardiness, making them all-stars all around!

Kale (green)  
**“Niedriger Grüner  
Krauser**

**Lage Moskrul**

Lage Moskrul is a winter hardy variety with dark, ruffled leaves. It does not get very tall, and can therefor “hide” well under an insulating layer of snow.

Can be grown in planters or pots, too.



Kale (brown)  
**Altmärker  
Braunkohl<sup>7</sup>**

This heirloom’s foliage runs the gamut from green to red to purple. The plant grows to be of average or above-average height. Ease of harvest and gorgeous leaf coloration are a joy for the home and market garden.

A EU Amateur Variety registered by us.



Kale (red)  
**Hoher Roter  
Krauser<sup>8</sup>**

**Tall Red Curly**

Glowing reddish plants are tall and sport a lovely, robust crown.

Very winter hardy.



<sup>6</sup> <https://www.uni-goettingen.de/de/48392.html>

<sup>7</sup> More information on this variety is available upon request.

<sup>8</sup> Seeds of this variety are considered to be seeds for research purposes under the EU’s plant reproductive material legislation (“Saatgut für Forschungszwecke” nach §43 der Saatgutverordnung).

## **Brassica Cutting Greens**

Can be eaten fresh in an Asian-style salad, or gently steamed to add a touch of the exotic to any meal.

Selected from several hundred genotypes in seed banks and collections, we trialed the most promising varieties in the field and in planters. We offer you our three favorites here.

Mustard Greens

Light green, frilled leaves with a mild, mustardy spice. Make a lovely addition to salads or vegetable stir-fries.

**Feathergreen**  
(*Brassica juncea*)

Harvest like arugula.

Somewhat winter hardy, though best suited for overwintering in an unheated greenhouse.

Can be grown in planters or pots on the balcony.

Seeding dates: Feb.-Oct., or anytime if grown indoors.



**Ethiopian cabbage** (*Brassica carinata*)

A lovely, nutty addition to salads. Young leaves can also be steamed gently. Flavor is reminiscent of broccoli. Easy to grow<sup>9</sup>.

Ethiopian Cabbage

Shiny purple leaves.

**Carina**  
(*Brassica carinata*)

Will grow in planters, pots, and on the balcony.

Seeding dates: March-Sept., or anytime if grown indoors.



Ethiopian Cabbage

Green and purple leaves.

**Gomenzer**  
(*Brassica carinata*)

Will grow in planters, pots, and on the balcony. Seeding dates: March-Sept., or anytime if grown indoors.



<sup>9</sup> For instructions and info: [www.culinaris-saatgut.de/infos-links/](http://www.culinaris-saatgut.de/infos-links/)



## Early and Winter Salad; Butterhead Lettuce

Winter salad usually means endives, mache (corn salad), and large-leaf chicory—we invite you to try something a little different this season: extraordinarily tasty head lettuces, planted in fall and overwintered for an early spring harvest.

Young head lettuce is a lot hardier than you'd think. Until about fifty years ago, when overwintering lettuce was par for the course, home and market gardeners alike profited from getting a head start on their growing season with these early lettuces. From a broad selection of varieties, we chose two of the most unique and interesting ones for our field trials. Even though the grocery stores have greatly improved their assortment of greens over the past ten years, there is one thing they forgot: the very best salads are harvested at home!

### ***Humil*** (*Lactuca sativa*)

A real old-fashioned butterhead lettuce. Mid-sized, bright green heads with few outer leaves that need removing before eating. Heads have a creamy heart and dense, beautifully filled bodies. Overall pronounced buttery qualities are a pleasant surprise for most gardeners!



### ***Roter Butterhäuptl*** ***Itsy-Bitsy Butterhead*** (*Lactuca sativa*)

A wee red head lettuce that weights about 200 grams. Early harvest means early color on your plate! Can be planted quite close together: 25 x 25 cm and tighter.

Our suggestion: plant at half distances and harvest every second lettuce as loose-leaf rather than head lettuce.



These lettuce varieties are intended for early cultivation outdoors or for overwintering. If overwintering, direct seed at the end of August or transplant in mid-October. Make sure that the top of the transplant's soil plug is even with the soil itself. Salads will overwinter with about 8 true leaves. Snow provides the best protection. Hard frosts without snow cover can be dangerous. In this case, cover lettuces with thin remay (fleece) or protect with straw—but wait to do this until as late as possible, after Christmas is best.



# CULINARIS – Wholesome Seed for healthy Food

## Nursery Crops for Transplant Production

The following is a **colorful collection of plants** for the **home garden or balcony**.

Winter Squash  
**Green Delicious<sup>3</sup>**  
(*Cucurbita maxima*)

An outstanding pick from the ARCHE NOAH selection.

Firm, dense, aromatic flesh is perfectly suited for cooking, roasting, or baking.

Fruit weight 2-3 kg.



Oilseed Pumpkin  
**Gleisdorfer**  
(*Cucurbita pepo*)

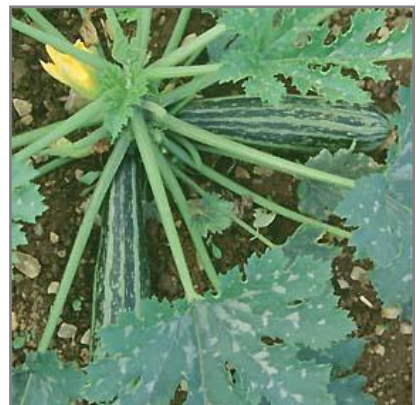
Strong, vigorously growing vines. Nutty seeds are hull-less and thus ideal for eating. Known to be beneficial for prostate health. Pumpkins can be harvested early or late, flesh is prepared like zucchini.

Fruit weight 3-7 kg.



Zucchini  
**Cocozelle von Tripolis**  
**Verte non coureuse d'Italie**  
(*Cucurbita pepo*)

A heritage variety with long, mottled green fruit. Does well in planters, too.



## CULINARIS – Wholesome Seed for healthy Food

### **Lemon Cucumber** (*Cucumis sativus*)

New to our  
collection!

Vigorously vining and branching plants with small leaves and delicate vines. Lemon-sized fruit are ready to harvest when they turn from green to lemony-yellow. Great cucumber flavor.

Thrives outdoors, in the greenhouse, or in planters. A garden fence or trellis can make harvesting easier.

These are a fantastic alternative to regular cukes!



### **Calabash or Bottle Gourd<sup>10</sup>** (*Lagenaria siceraria*)

Fruit are 20-40 cm long and grow in a wide variety of shapes. Specially bred for rougher climates. Woody fruit can be turned into bowls, toys, instruments, birdhouses, or other useful objects.

They will harden over winter in a warm, dry spot. If mold appears, gently scrape off the upper layer of skin and dry fruit quickly. Can be grown in planters.



### **Kaywa or Slipper Gourd** (*Cyclanthera pedata*)

Grows on vigorous, attractive vines, ideal for greening up a less-than-pretty fence line or wall quickly. Can grow more than two meters in a season.

Fruit can be harvested for eating when olive-sized. Raw or pickled, their flavor is reminiscent of cucumber, when cooked, Kaywa tastes like asparagus<sup>11</sup>.

Can be grown in pots or planters.



<sup>10</sup> Seeds of this variety are considered to be seeds for research purposes under the EU's plant reproductive material legislation, ("Saatgut für Forschungszwecke" nach §43 der Saatgutverordnung).

<sup>11</sup> Recipes at: <http://www.culinaris-saatgut.de/infos-links/>



## CULINARIS – Wholesome Seed for healthy Food

Kohlrabi

### **Giant (Superschmelz)**

(*Brassica oleracea* var.  
*gongylodes*)

As the name suggest, this variety reaches an enormous size. Can be harvested over the course of several weeks. The base becomes woody, but even the biggest specimens stay tender and juicy inside.

After autumn harvest, they can be stored in the cellar until the spring.

Requires twice as much space as regular kohlrabi in the garden.



### **Celtuce or Chinese Lettuce**

(*Lactuca sativa* var.  
*angustana*)

New to our  
collection!



Lettuce of a different kind!

The focus here is on the fleshy, tasty stem. Harvested before buds form, celtuce is peeled and eaten raw or cooked just like asparagus or kohlrabi.

Plants need plenty of space to grow, at least 30 x 30 cm, and some attention until they reach optimal size.

Will form small rosettes that can be harvested and eaten like regular lettuce.



### **White Strawberry (Fragaria viridis)**

Bears fragrant, white fruit from May until the first hard frost.

Start plants early to ensure harvestable yields in the first season.

Can be grown in pots or planters.



## CULINARIS – Wholesome Seed for healthy Food

**Salsify**  
**Sandwich Island**  
(*Tragopogon porrifolium*)

New to our  
collection!

Excellent, slightly sweet aroma reminiscent of creamy oats. These are regarded as a delicacy in the United Kingdom, where they are known as “oyster plant”.

Grow them like their relative, scorzonera. Harvest begins in September and lasts until the following spring.

Left unharvested, plants will set lovely, purple flowers in their second year.



Foxtail Millet  
**Autumn Fire**  
(*Setaria italica*)

A traditional plant for added variety in your garden!

Awnless seedheads ripen to red-brown along with leaves, resulting in highly decorative plants. Ideal for dried flower arrangements or birdseed.

Can be grown in pots or planters.



Sweet Corn  
**Golden Bantam**<sup>12</sup>  
(*Zea mays*)

Heritage, open-pollinated variety with shapely ears. Perfectly delicious for cooking, grilling, roasting, or eating raw.



<sup>12</sup> For more on this variety see: [www.bantam-mais.de](http://www.bantam-mais.de)



# CULINARIS – Wholesome Seed for healthy Food

## Flowers

Vegetables nourish us, but our eyes and noses deserve a treat, too!

### **Morning Glory** (*Ipomea purpurea*)

Stunning, trumpet-shaped flowers in deep blue, blush pink, and coral emerge from lush foliage.

Vines grow up to 5 meters in a season, and will climb fences, posts, or teepees.

Better suited to our climate than most other varieties of morning glory.

Can also be grown in a planter or on the balcony.



### **Moroccan Toadflax** (*Linaria maroccana*)

The flowers of this exquisite member of the plantain family are like tiny snapdragons.

Low-maintenance, annual plants are diminutive, reaching about 30-50 cm. Flowers range from rosy-red to violet-blue, and last until the first hard frost.

Plant in clumps to add dashes of color to flower beds, or grown them in planters or window boxes.



### **Dahlia** (*Dahlia variabilis*)

A dwarf variety that reaches a height of about 50 cm. Unfilled blossoms come in a range of colors and flower in the first year. Will overwinter. Start them early to extend the flowering season.

Dahlias do very well in pots or planters.

