Cilantro (Coriander)

*Coriandrum sativum*

Where summers are hot, grow this herb in spring and fall. Cilantro plants mature and go to seed quickly; sow successions every 3 weeks.

**Culture:** Provide well-drained soil and even moisture. Direct sow beginning as soon as the soil can be worked. For summer cilantro, close plant spacing and deep mulch cools the roots and prolongs harvest. To sow in hot weather, keep cool until emergence: use shade cloth and water with crushed ice (or sow in the refrigerator.)

**Harvest:** Leaves can be harvested any time. Cut the outer leaves first, allowing smaller inner leaves to mature. Expect 2-3 harvests from each planting. Use the seeds fresh or dry for coriander.

**Seed Savers:** Self sows readily. Harvest the dry seeds just before they drop by gently rubbing the seed heads. Finish drying indoors.