



The Herb Society of America

2009 Promising Plant Profile

Ocimum basilicum 'Amethyst Improved'

Family: Lamiaceae (Labiatae)

Genus: *Ocimum*

Specific Epithet: *basilicum*

Cultivar: 'Amethyst Improved'

Life cycle: tender annual

Zone: 10

Flower color/Bloom time: mid to late summer

Growth: Grows 15-20" (40-50 cm)

Habit/Form: compact

Light requirements: full sun

Propagation: seed, cuttings

Uses: culinary, borders, vegetable gardens

GRAS status: Leaf: GRAS at 2-680 ppm, Oil: 0.01-50 ppm

(Info. found in The Big Book of Herbs, see reference/bibliography section)



Pests/Diseases: Japanese beetles, grasshoppers, aphids, whiteflies, cutworms, root rot, bacterial and fungal diseases

Description/Cultivation: The foliage of 'Amethyst Improved' consists of large leaves that are downturned at the edges. Their color ranges from dark burgandy to almost black. The unique color of this herb makes it a eye-catching addition to the garden. Keep the tops of this basil trimmed in order to maintain its compact growth and to prevent flowering.

Disclaimer: Profiles are intended to provide a brief introduction to each herb. For additional information on uses, including medicinal contraindications, see the References list. The Herb Society of America can not advise, recommend, or prescribe herbs for medicinal use. Please consult a health care provider before pursuing any herbal treatments. Inclusion of vendor information does not indicate an endorsement by The Herb Society of America, and HSA can not guarantee availability of seeds/plants.

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