FENNEL

Foeniculum vulgare

ECHO® PLANT INFORMATION SHEET

Uses

Can be used in IPM to attract beneficial insects.

Common Names

Cultivation

Soak seeds for improved germination. Direct seed, thinning to 30 to 45 cm (12 to 18 in) apart, when they are approximately 10 cm in height (4 in). Prefers a well-drained area with sun. Plants will grow to be 0.5 to 1 m in height. Short-lived perennial. Will start to produce flowers after 90 days and will produce better in the second year.

Cooking and Nutrition

The seed has a similar taste to anise and is used as a spice. The fruit (green, immature seed) is even more aromatic and is used both in cooking and as a flavoring for desserts such as licorice. The feathery leaves can be cooked in a variety of dishes, in either their fresh or dry form. The base can be used for similar purposes, and is both sweet and aromatic.