



Coriandrum sativum

Family name: **Apiaceae (Umbelliferae)**Common name: **Apiaceae (Umbelliferae)**Local name: **كسبرة Kuzbara**

Cultivated



Role in Biodiversity

Genetic and phenotypic diversity of *Coriandrum sativum* enriches the crop biodiversity which is a key part of agricultural ecosystems. The clusters of flowers of *Coriandrum sativum* are very attractive to small beneficial insects such as adult syrphid flies and parasitic wasps that consume the nectar.



Environment and Growing

Coriandrum sativum shows broad adaptation by growing well under different types of soil and weather conditions. Coriander for fruit production is found in tropical highlands, subtropics and temperate regions, while in the lowland tropics it is grown as a green herb. It prefers deep fertile loams with adequate drainage. It is tolerant to cold, heat and drought stresses. Coriander fruit yield per plant increases with an increasing availability of nutrients and water.

Growth requirements:

- Germination of coriander occurs at temperatures above 4°C
- For seed formation, temperature range 20-30°C
- Optimal temperature for genotypes with small fruits range 17-20°C.
- Optimal temperature for genotypes with large fruits range 22-27°C.
- Tropical rainforest climate > 60mm precipitation per month.
- Tropical savanna climate with dry summer < 60mm precipitation driest month.



Reproduction and Communication

Coriandrum sativum reproduced mainly by seeds. The hermaphrodite flowers are completely protandrous with anther maturity before the stigmas becomes receptive. It requires the pollen from other flowers with the help of pollinators. Cross-pollination is estimated to be up to 50%. Flowers are highly attractive to both pollen and nectar-collecting insects, especially the honey bee.



Life span

Coriander is an annual herb that completes its life cycle in one growing season. For fruit production, it takes about 90-140 days from sowing to harvesting. For leaves production, several cuts are possible when the right cultivars are used.



Size

Coriandrum sativum grows up to 20- 70 cm.



Parts



Stems are slender, erect, and branched, reaching a height of about 50 cm to 60 cm, 4 to 5 mm in diameter.

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Roots are taproot system with a main taproot and smaller lateral roots.



Leaves are compound, feathery, and finely divided into linear segments.



Flowers are small, shortly stalked umbels, pinkish and whitish.

Fruits are globular, ridged, and yellowish-brown when ripe.

Seeds are small, globular with ridges that are usually brown but can also be green, straw-colored, or off-white.

INTRODUCTION

Herb

Coriandrum sativum, cilantro, is a fast-growing annual aromatic and medicinal herb. The leaves are the herb cilantro or Chinese parsley and the seeds are the spice coriander. It is native to southern Europe and Asia but now cultivated in many other parts of the world specially the Mediterranean region. *Coriandrum sativum* is one of the oldest know herbs. It has been cultivated for thousands of years in India and China. This plant is characterized by producing wide, flat leaves when young but when begins to bolt, it produces lacy and fern-like leaves along the flower stalk.

In Sudan, Coriander is the spice used in Sudanese cuisine throughout the country and widely available in all spice markets. It is grown in many parts of Sudan especially in the Northern State and the River Nile State. The leaves are not much used in Sudan like the seeds which are not only a spice but also used in tradition medicine.

LIVELIHOODS / CULTURE

Cultivation

The best time to plant coriander in Sudan is October-February. It is a pest-resistant plant that repels insects. It is usually planted with onions, especially in the Northern State and the River Nile State to protect the onion crop.

Land preparation: Land is prepared by making trenches or choosing a basins with an area of one square meter.

Seeds sowing: The seeds are buried at the top of the trenches or on their sides, or scattered in the basins. Seeds are covered with a light layer of soil, not exceeding 3 cm. The plant grows within 10 to 12 days after planting the seeds.

Irrigation: Trenches or basins are irrigated almost every day. The seeds begin to grow and germinate approximately ten days after planting.

Harvesting: Coriander grown for fruit takes only 45 days to be ready for harvest. If coriander plants are grown for leaves, they are harvested when they reach the appropriate size, which is approximately 20-25 cm, after about two months of age. The following harvests are monthly, and the number of harvests may reach 4-5 harvests. Leaves can be picked either by hand or with special scissors.

[Cultivation of Coriander](#)

Cultural Value

The dried seeds of the coriander plant are the most commonly used part in Sudan. They are an essential spice that is added to almost all Sudanese recipes.

Medicinal and health uses

Coriander has been used in traditional medicine to treat a variety of conditions. It has been used to treat gastrointestinal disturbance, inflammation, and pain.

Cultural Expressions

No information available.

THREATS

Considering its long time of cultivation around the world, there are no current reports of *Coriandrum sativum* invasiveness. This species is not likely to become a high-threat species in the near future. Some potential disease problems include damping off, rot, wilt and bacterial blight, blossom blight and aster yellows are reported to be regional threats.

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