

Warrigal Greens

Tetragonia tetragonioides · Fig-marigold family

DIFFICULTY Easy
TYPE Perennial groundcover, native to Australia
MATURITY 8–10 weeks



SUN
Full-part sun



WATER
Low-moderate,
drought-tolerant
once established



SOIL PH
6.0–7.5



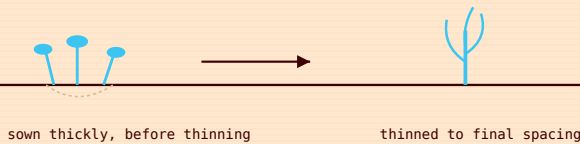
SPACING
60–90cm



DEPTH
0.5–1cm

01 A native spinach substitute

This sprawling native groundcover crops through the warmer months when true spinach has bolted. Blanch briefly before eating — it contains natural oxalates like ordinary spinach.



02 Planting

METHOD	Direct sow or plant seedlings; it spreads widely once established.
SOIL	Tolerant of poor, sandy soils; free-draining.
TIMING	Plant in spring; thrives through summer heat that ordinary spinach can't handle.

Planting timing varies significantly by Australian climate zone. Set your zone above (or use the Find My Climate Zone tool) for guidance tailored to your own area.

03 Growing care

- Water while establishing, then rely mostly on rainfall.
- Harvest tips regularly to keep new growth coming.
- Let a section go to seed each year to self-sow for next season.
- Give it room — it sprawls widely as a groundcover.

04 Problems

- **Very few pests** — one of its major advantages as a homestead crop.
- **Self-seeding beyond bounds** — the main management task; harvest before seed sets if containment matters.
- **Slow to establish** — be patient in the first season.
- **Woody stems if unharvested** — regular picking keeps it tender.

05 Harvest & storage

SIGNS	Leaves and tips reach usable size, continuously through the growing season.
METHOD	Pinch tips and leaves as needed.
CURING	None needed.
STORAGE	Fridge a few days; best used fresh.
PRESERVING	See Dehydrating (drying for long-term storage) or Freezing Produce (freezing a harvest surplus) for ways to keep a harvest surplus.

06 Companions & rotation

PLANT NEARBY	AVOID NEARBY	ROTATION NOTE
Tomato Corn	None major	Not applicable — long-lived perennial groundcover.