

Lemongrass

Cymbopogon citratus · Grass family

DIFFICULTY Easy
TYPE Tender perennial clumping grass
MATURITY Usable from 4–6 months



SUN
Full sun, warm



WATER
Regular



SOIL PH
6.0–7.5



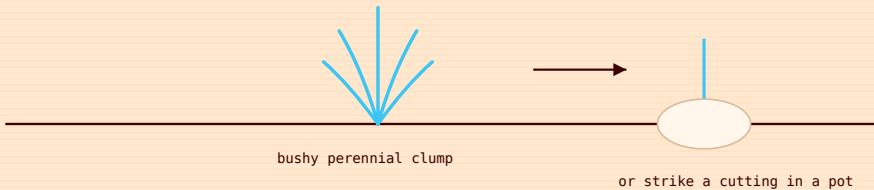
SPACING
60–90cm



DEPTH
as per pot

01 A large, useful clump

Lemongrass forms a substantial clump over a season or two and divides easily — a few plants can quickly become a hedge-sized supply.



02 Planting

METHOD	Plant a nursery seedling or a rooted stem from a supermarket bunch.
SOIL	Rich, well-drained.
TIMING	Plant in spring once frost risk has passed.

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.

04 Problems

- **Frost damage** — the main risk in cooler zones; mulch heavily over winter.
- **Rust** — occasional leaf spotting; improve airflow.
- **Few other pest issues** — a generally trouble-free plant.
- **Slow establishment** — be patient in the first season.

03 Growing care

- Water regularly through the warmer months.
- Feed occasionally with compost.
- Divide the clump every couple of years to keep it vigorous.
- Protect from frost in cooler zones — foliage dies back but the base often survives.

05 Harvest & storage

SIGNS	Usable once stems reach pencil thickness at the base.
METHOD	Cut stalks at the base, use the lower white-pink section.
CURING	None needed; can be frozen for longer storage.
STORAGE	Fridge, a couple of weeks; frozen, several months.
PRESERVING	See Dehydrating (drying woody herbs for storage) for ways to keep a harvest surplus.

06 Companions & rotation

PLANT NEARBY	AVOID NEARBY	ROTATION NOTE
Chilli Ginger	None major	Not applicable — long-lived perennial clump.