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Zamboni Broccoli Raab

Brassica rapa var. ruvo 'Zamboni'

Height: 22 inches

Spread: 16 inches

Spacing: 6 inches

Sunlight: ☉ ☐

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Other Names: Rapini, Spring Raab, Broccoletto

Description:

A delicious heirloom variety that is easy to grow and produces an abundance of side shoots; small leaves, stems and florets are slightly bitter and nutty, great added to salads, grilled or steamed; stagger planting to ensure long harvest

Edible Qualities

Zamboni Broccoli Raab is an annual vegetable plant that is typically grown for its edible qualities. The entire above-ground parts of the plant are edible, and are usually harvested from mid summer to mid fall. The edible parts have a bitter taste.

The plant is most often used in the following ways:

- Fresh Eating
- Eating When Cooked/Prepared
- Cooking

Planting & Growing

Zamboni Broccoli Raab will grow to be about 22 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 16 inches. When planted in rows, individual plants should be spaced approximately 6 inches apart. This fast-growing vegetable plant is an annual, which means that it will grow for one season in your garden and then die after producing a crop. Because of its relatively short time to maturity, it lends itself to a series of successive plantings each staggered by a week or two; this will prolong the effective harvest period.



Zamboni Broccoli Raab fruit
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



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This plant is typically grown in a designated vegetable garden. It does best in full sun to partial shade. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. This plant is a heavy feeder that requires frequent fertilizing throughout the growing season to perform at its best. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in rich soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone over the growing season to conserve soil moisture. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America, and it is considered by many to be an heirloom variety.

Zamboni Broccoli Raab is a good choice for the vegetable garden, but it is also well-suited for use in outdoor pots and containers. With its upright habit of growth, it is best suited for use as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the center of the pot, surrounded by smaller plants and those that spill over the edges. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.

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