Arugula is a rich source of iron as well as vitamins A and C.

It also contains a significant amount of sulfur-containing compounds known as glucosinolates, which give it a pungent (sharp) flavor.



ARUGULA GARDEN STATE ON YOUR PLATE SM IS A PROJECT OF THE PRINCETON

Even though arugula has a strong, peppery flavor, it is a tender, perishable green and should be eaten within a few days of harvest.



Arugula grows close
to the ground and dirt often
gets on the leaves.
Be sure to rinse them
well so that your salad
isn't gritty.



Arugula is a member of the Brassica family along with broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, mustard, radish, and collard greens. It grows wild throughout southern Europe.



According to the Field Guide to Produce, arugula's Latin name, Eruca, means caterpillar, "and it describes the plant's hairy stems."



Arugula leaves and flowers are edible.
You can eat the young seed pods and mature seeds, too!



The name for arugula varies around the world.

In England, Australia, South Africa,
Ireland, and New Zealand
it is called *rocket*. It is *rucola* in Italy and
roquette in France. All of these names stem
from the Latin word *eruca*.



Young arugula leaves are mild. As the plant gets bigger, the leaves acquire a more peppery taste.

Where arugula is grown (in a greenhouse versus out in a field) and how much it is irrigated also impact its spiciness.



Native to the Mediterranean region, arugula was brought to America by British colonists.

It wasn't until the 1990's that arugula became popular in the United States.



Arugula has been cultivated around the Mediterranean for centuries. The Romans enjoyed arugula as a salad green and used the seeds for flavoring.

In Asia, arugula is also grown for its seeds, which are pressed to make oil.

