East Bay Nursery

Purple Globe Artichoke

Cynara cardunculus var. scolymus 'Purple Globe'



Purple Globe Artichoke
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 5 feet

Spread: 4 feet

Spacing: 3 feet

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 7a

Description:

A wonderful easy to grow variety; splendid arching silvery, spiny foliage is stunning in containers and gardens; green flower buds that turn deep plum purple are cultivated and harvested as a vegetable; buttery rich flavor, a culinary delight

Edible Qualities

Purple Globe Artichoke is a perennial vegetable plant that is commonly grown for its edible qualities, although it does have ornamental merits as well. It produces grayish green round flowers with plum purple overtones and creamy white flesh which are harvested from mid summer to mid fall. The flowers have a distinctive taste with a fleshy texture and a sweet fragrance.

The flowers are most often used in the following ways:

- Cooking
- Baking
- Pickling

Planting & Growing

Purple Globe Artichoke will grow to be about 4 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 4 feet. When planted in rows, individual plants should be spaced approximately 3 feet apart. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 10 years. As an herbaceous perennial, this plant will usually die back to the crown each winter, and will regrow from the base each spring. Be careful not to disturb the crown in late winter when it may not be readily seen! This is a self-pollinating variety, so it doesn't require a second plant nearby to set fruit.

This plant is quite ornamental as well as edible, and is as much at home in a landscape or flower garden as it is in a designated vegetable garden. It should only be grown in full sunlight. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in rich soils. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments, and will benefit from being planted in a relatively sheltered location. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.