

Living Herbs

Description

Angelica Shiny Leaf, also called Spanish Angelica
Angelica Pachycarpa
Family: Apiaceae

Angelica Shiny Leaf is a fleshy sturdy perennial plant that grows up to 1.5m tall, with large dark green, very glossy, pinnate, serrated leaves growing from opposite sides along the stem. Its hollow watery stalks are anise-scented and show purple colouring which is more pronounced at the base of each leaf stalk. A greenish yellow umbel flower arises in its second year.

Growing Tips

This herb grows from seed and likes rich damp soil with good drainage preferring sunny or part shade and a cool temperature. This variety is at its best during winter, and dies down to a dormant state when the temperature rises. It flowers in the second or third year in spring. If the flower heads are nipped off before they bloom, the plant survives for several years. It is also drought and frost resistant.

Parts Used

Leaves (stems and flowers are used for decorative purposes.)

Uses

The leaf of this particular variety of Angelica is used only for its very glossy appearance as a garnish on dishes and in floral arrangements.

Origin & History

Angelica Shiny Leaf originates in North Western Spain and Portugal, where it grows in forests, grasslands and along streams. It is also naturalised in New Zealand and Australia.

Angelica Shiny Leaf

