

## Description

**Marjoram Country Cream**  
**Origanum Vulgare 'Country Cream'**  
**Family: Lamiaceae**

Marjoram Country Cream is a hardy perennial bushy plant with pointed oval green/cream variegated leaves arranged in opposite pairs along a thin woody stem. It forms a dense mat, growing up to 30cm high producing several groups of pink flowers arranged like balls along the branched stem.

## Growing Tips

It likes well-drained rich soil in a sunny position. Its leaves take on a pink tinge in the colder weather. It dies back in the middle of winter, re-growing in spring. For best results trim back regularly and plant 40cm apart.

## Parts Used

Leaves

## Uses

This variety, though aromatic and can be used in Italian, Greek, Mexican dishes, is mostly used for ornamental purposes.

## Origin & History

Marjoram is native to the Mediterranean regions and Greek mythology tells that it was first grown in the garden of Venus. The name Origanum translates from Greek into "joy of the mountain".

The servant of the king of Cyprus was turned into an Origanum plant after he spilled a jar of precious perfume, and since then, the sight of this plant near burial places is seen as a good omen for the welfare of the dead's spirit. It was also used as a symbolic adornment in marriage ceremonies.

Both Romans and Greeks used it as a preservative and disinfectant and for its pleasant scent in hair rinses.

In the 16th century it was used to ward off the plague as inhalations.

