

## Marrubium vulgare - Plant



Marrubium vulgare (White Horehound) is a gray-leaved herbaceous perennial plant, somewhat resembling mint in appearance.

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Marrubium vulgare Plant

## Description for Marrubium vulgare

**Plant height:** 3 - 6 inches (7 - 16 cm)

**Plant spread:**

Marrubium vulgare is a flowering plant in the family Lamiaceae, native to Europe, northern Africa, and southwestern and central Asia. It is also widely naturalized in many places, including most of North and South America.

White Horehound is a gray-leaved herbaceous perennial plant, somewhat resembling mint in appearance. Stems are quadrangular and branching. Oppositely arranged leaves are 2-5 cm long with a densely crinkled surface, and are covered with white felted hairs. Flowers are white, borne in crowded whorls in leaf axils.

**Common name(s):** White Horehound, Common Horehound

**Flower colours:** White

**Bloom time:** June to September

**Max reachable height:** 8 to 24 inches

**Difficulty to grow:** Easy to grow

## Planting and care

The horehound herb plant can be planted from seed, cuttings and division. Plant the seed three weeks before your last expected frost date. The seeds are surface sown and covered with a dusting of soil to prevent the wind from taking them. When planning how to plant horehound remember the germination difficulties of the seed.

Even moisture is important to encourage sprouting which is erratic. Seedlings are thinned to 10 inches apart and you can harvest the leaves after the plant flowers.

**Sunlight:** Full Sun to Partial Shade

**Soil:** Well-drained soil

**Water:** Medium

**Temperature:** 65 degrees F

**Fertilizer:** Apply any organic fertilizer

## Caring for Marrubium vulgare

- Horehound is grown in full sun and well-drained soil. Other requirements are minimal as it can spring up naturally in nutrient deficient areas and sandy soils.
- Horehound produces a burr-like seed pod which contains tiny seeds.
- The seeds are slow to germinate and do not need to be sown deeply. Prior to seeding the horehound plant cultivate the soil and rake it to remove roots, rocks, and debris.

## Typical uses of Marrubium vulgare

**Special features:** An essential oil is obtained from the plant and used as a flavoring in liqueurs. The plant has been used as a cure for cankerworm in trees. No more details are given but it is probably a strong infusion of the flowering shoots or the essential oil, that is used. The growing plant repels flies.

**Culinary use:** The leaves are used as a seasoning. Bitter and pungent, they are sometimes used to flavor herb beer or liqueurs. Horehound ale is a fairly well-known drink made from the leaves. A mild pleasantly flavored tea is made from the fresh or dried leaves, it is a favorite cough remedy.

**Ornamental use:** The plant is used for an ornamental purpose.

**Medicinal use:** NA

## References

- <http://www.pfaf.org/user/Plant.aspx?LatinName=Marrubium+vulgare>
- <http://www.gardeningknowhow.com/edible/herbs/horehound/growing-horehound.htm>
- <http://www.flowersofindia.net/risearch/search.php?query=Marrubium+vulgare&stpos=0&stype=AND>

## Reviews

Saturday, 01 February 2020

IS this, an indoor plant ????

Neharika Johri

Thursday, 28 November 2019

Plants are alive but flowers have not come out as yet.

Gaurav Narwania

Tuesday, 26 November 2019

Does best in rich, well-draining soil.

Harish Kumar

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