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Seeds for Africa

Humulus Lupulus

Prepare a large garden spot with deep, rich, well-drained soil. Incorporate plenty of manure for best results. This spot should have full sun and be close to a water source to make it easy to water. Humulus lupulus will need some type of support structure, so plan your garden spot next to a fence or install an arbor, trellis, stakes, poles, wires or arches.

Start in mid-winter if you are growing humulus lupulus from seed. Soak the seeds for 24 hours, then place them in a plastic bag with damp peat moss and put them in your refrigerator for approximately six weeks. Plant the seeds in small containers and keep them in a warm place, protected from frost. Seeds should start to grow in about four weeks, but it may take longer. The first year of growth will be very slow. Transfer plants to the garden in the spring.

Keep humulus lupulus plants well watered and do not let the ground dry out. Mulch with organic matter and fertilize regularly. Watch for powdery or downy mildew, aphids and mites and treat immediately if one of these common problems arises. Begin to train the vines around the supports when they are about a foot long.

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