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## Care Sheet

*Muraya koenigii*  
(Indian Curry Plant or Sweet Neem)

This is the true curry leaf plant used in Southern and West Coast Indian and also Sri Lankan cooking often referred locally in India as Sweet Neem Leaves.

The leaves are often used in the start of cooking and added whilst frying the onions but can also be fried in oil until crispy and added as decoration to or crumbled onto the finished dish.

The flowers are small but highly scented and not dissimilar to a carrot flower head in appearance.

The fruit it produces is a pea sized red berry that turns black when ripe, also edible although the seeds are said to be toxic.

We just eat the fruit, spit out and plant the seeds!

The leaves do not keep well when off the plant and even in the fridge they have a very short shelf life, so why not grow your own and pick your own leaves fresh?

### GROWING CONDITIONS

The Indian Curry Leaf Plant, thrives on warmth. They should ideally be kept at temperatures above 15 centigrade. Lower than this can cause leaf drop and or yellowing of leaves. They have lower light requirements than citrus however, so make idea house plants. Unlike citrus they seem to thrive with under-floor heating and adapt very well to the low humidity found in modern homes. They do much better if kept indoors throughout the year, but care must be taken to ventilate glasshouses and conservatories in the spring and summer to avoid extreme high temperatures.

### FEEDING AND RE-POTTING

As a close cousin of citrus the curry plant does very well with the same feed. Use our citrus feed and allow the plant to almost dry out between each watering, feeding each time. Water plenty of water through the pot allowing it to drain away and NEVER let it stand in water.

At the nursery we use an extremely free draining, peat free compost for all our plants, including citrus and Indian curry plants. It is soilless and available at the nursery. Alternatively you can use a good quality, peat base tree and shrub container compost. You should not re-pot during the winter, (between September and April).