



International Union of Soil Sciences

The Limonaria (*Cymbopogon citratus*)

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The Limonaria (*Cymbopogon citratus*)

My name is *Cymbopogon citratus* Stapf, but my friends call me lemongrass, limonaria, or cedron grass.



I am a grass with a lemon scent. I attract bees and many beneficial organisms. I can also help avoid erosion in sloping grounds since I can grow up to one meter high.

To cultivate me, you can put one of my stems in a glass with some water, placing it where the sun shines, and wait for the roots to sprout before you plant it in a pot or directly in your garden.



A piece of my root can produce up to 70 new plants or seedlings that can be harvested after eight months and then every three or four months. I love all kinds of soil. However, I prefer warm and temperate climates with excellent shade and avoiding waterlogging around me.

People who know me say that to cut my leaves, it is better to choose those that already show yellowing at the tips because they dry easier at room temperature. And so they can be stored.



I am used as an herbal tea to treat digestive problems such as constipation, relieve rheumatic pain, and bronchial problems.



My essential oils are used in perfumery or as an essence for some foods. And to make natural insecticide against mosquitoes.



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