

# Did You Know?

---



## Lemon Basil - *Ocimum x citridorum*

- Is a hybrid cross of *O. basilicum* x *O. americanum*
- Introduced into the United States around 1940
- There are many named varieties of this hybrid and ironically, not all are lemon scented.
- The 'Greek Columnar', also known as 'Lesbos' and 'Aussie Sweetie' as well as the compact plant 'Spicy Globe' are examples of non-lemon scented basil varieties which both are attractive in the garden and flavorful for cooking.
- 'Sweet Dani' is a cultivar with compact habit and a nice lemon aroma.
- Use lemon basil like other basil varieties to flavor main dishes like chicken, beverages or baked goods.
- Just to add to the confusion, the cultivar 'Mrs. Burns' has a strong lemon aroma and flavor but is an *O. basilicum*.