

Carrot: *Daucus Carota*

Taxonomy

Kingdom: Plantae
Order: Apiales
Family: Apiaceae
Genus: *Daucus*
Species: *D. carota*

Phylogeny

Domain: Eukaryota
Kingdom: Plantae
Phylum: Magnoliophyta
Class: Magnoliopsida
Order: Apiales
Family: Apiaceae
Genus: *Daucus*
Species: *Daucus carota* var.
sativus



Growth

Carrots are a biennial plant, which means that the life cycle of the plant takes two years to complete. In the first year of the life cycle the embryo within a seed develops into a mature plant. While maturing the plant grows foliage and stores sugars in an enlarged root. It is after the first half of the life cycle that the carrots are usually harvested. During the second half of the life cycle is when flowering and reproduction takes place.



Edible or medicinal uses

Carrots are credited with many medicinal properties; they are said to cleanse the intestines and to be diuretic, remineralizing, antidiarrheal, an overall tonic and antianemic. Carrot is rich in alkaline elements which purify and revitalize the blood. They nourish the entire system and help in the maintenance of acid-alkaline balance in the body. The carrot also has a reputation as a vegetable that helps to maintain good eyesight. Raw grated carrot can be applied as a compress to burns for a soothing effect. Its highly energizing juice has a particularly beneficial effect on the liver.

Interesting facts

- * The wild ancestors of the carrot are likely to have come from Iran and Afghanistan
- * The largest carrot by weight ever recorded was 18.985 pounds. It was grown by John Evans of Alaska in 1998



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References

Carrot. (2014) Wikipedia online. Retrieved from: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carrot>
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