



# GW AGRICULTURE™

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Improving Farms, Vineyards, Landscapes, Gardens and Orchards

2007

## Rosemary Grower's Guide

(Rosmarinus Officinalis )

### Introduction

The purpose of the rosemary plant is to bring to mankind a temporary ascendance and awareness of Spirit. This herb is on Earth to help people understand their lessons on a deeper spiritual level.

The role of rosemary is to bring the mental faculties more closely aligned to the Infinite Presence. In doing so, it brings to the mind the clarity it needs to understand the matter at hand more directly. Therein lies the teaching necessary for growing the best rosemary.

### Growing Rosemary

Rosemary is very sensitive to the cosmic nature of the Moon and Saturn.<sup>1</sup> The two cosmic influences dictate, to a very large extent, the nature of the plant and the effectiveness of the leaves in bringing this mental-spiritual acuity. It is best to plant or transplant when the Sun is in Capricorn, Gemini or Virgo.<sup>2</sup> Capricorn is preferred but Gemini or Virgo are good second choices. The influence of these constellations will bring the necessary driving forces to the plant that will enhance the cosmic energy necessary to make the leap to the Divine.<sup>3</sup>

Now, as to the techniques for growing it, we recommend the following: It is best to use all of the GW Agriculture homeopathically prepared Field Sprays that one would normally employ, prepared compost and flower tea.

### Compost

Rosemary is very sensitive to uncomposted or raw materials. It is best to provide this herb with the most highly composted materials available as you would the finer leaf crops. This is necessary since you want to bring only the finest, spiritually enlivened stabilized humus to it. To bring the unrefined products of compost will wither the cosmic influences this plant needs in its service to mankind.

Soil amendments such as peat moss, sand, vermiculite, perlite and so forth may be used as long as the basic soil formula is rich in GW Agriculture™ Medicinal Compost.<sup>5</sup>

For the compost that will provide the special blend that will propel the spiritual energy of rosemary into the individual, we recommend keeping away from the more extreme sources of compost. For example, we do not recommend pig or poultry manure. Nor do we recommend sheep or goat manure. Stick to cow manure and, secondarily, horse manure.

The best compost mixture will have cow manure, leafy plants (not other herbs with the exception of chervil) and finely ground basalt (in homeopathic amounts).<sup>6</sup>

Basalt can be applied directly to the ground around rosemary very, very sparingly, add it to the compost at no more than one or two handfulls per cubic yard and apply it through the compost, or apply it through the GW Agriculture™ Basalt Field Spray.<sup>7</sup>

The compost mixture for rosemary would be about 1/3 cow manure (fresh, not dried steer manure), 1/3 leafy vegetables and 1/3 brown matter from leafy sources. To this add alternating thin



layers of soil, a light dusting of basalt, the Compost Invigorator™ compost spray and cover with straw. This compost mixture should, under normal summer conditions, be aged for at least six months with occasional stirring. Not too much. Monitor it carefully to see that it does not dry out. It should feel like a damp sponge in your hand. This is extremely important for rosemary. If this mixture dries out and overheats, it will be ruined for rosemary and you will have to start over. You can use it for the regular garden mixture on lettuce and others.<sup>8</sup>

Whether or not you plant rosemary in the ground or in a pot is a matter of personal choice. The essence of growing exceptional rosemary comes from the GW Agriculture™ Field Sprays and the special compost.

## Flower Tea

This herb can be improved by spraying the entire plant with a tea made from the main parts of the flower (not the leaves). The flower holds the genetic properties necessary to influence the proper development of the plant. Lighter colored flowers generally indicate a better quality culinary rosemary. A tea made from approximately 100 flowers, soaked in one gallon of solarized water (see below), in the sun for about one hour (at high noon only) will produce a stunning result in the quality of the leaves. The color and texture of the leaves, the taste of the leaves and the quality of the tea will be exceptional. Harvest the day after spraying.

Apply the tea spray in the morning only. The earlier the better. Just after sunrise would be best. The tea can be prepared the preceding day and applied as a light mist the following morning. You may use flowers from many plants or just one plant.

## Sunlight

Growing rosemary is very easy. This herb is, however, sensitive to sunlight. Remember that this is a plant of Mediterranean origin. It needs an abundance of sunshine to become rich in spiritual power. This is a key part of growing rosemary.

For a minute, let us consider the role of the Sun in this herb. The Sun provides the life giving energy for all plants to exist. It brings the green color. When you see green in plants, you are watching the Sun. It is important to understand the relationship between the Sun and the green leafy parts of this herb. Full Sun instills these leaves with the color and the Spiritual Life Force that the Sun delivers. Rosemary grown for culinary uses, does not do well in shade or partial shade. Protect your plants from high winds.

## Solarized Water

The nature of the relationship between rosemary and water is that solarized water will bring out the deepest essence of the plant. The Wholistic™ Agriculture approach would be to use only water that has had an opportunity to experience the Sun for at least twelve hours before application to the plant.<sup>9</sup> The water should be uncontaminated with poisons since these block the spiritual properties of the leaves.

## pH

We recommend a slightly alkaline soil, in the area of 7.4 to 7.6 pH. However, a neutral soil will produce almost the same results. Ideally 7.5 would produce the best plants. A neutral to 7.5 pH for the water would be perfect.



## Harvesting

The nature of rosemary is that it is always ready for use by people, regardless of the season. Fresh leaves produce more of an instant spiritual awareness whereas the dried leaves produce a deeper and more prolonged awareness. The drying process should be solar only (remember the Sun's influence). The application of heat through artificial means only serves to lessen the amount of spiritual energy in the plant.

For fresh use, leaves can be harvested at any time. Picking early in the morning is preferable. With rosemary, it is not necessary to wait to collect the leaves after the dew has evaporated. For drying and storing, harvest on a Leaf day when the Moon is in the realm of Capricorn and the Sun is in the realm of Virgo or Gemini.<sup>10</sup>

## Drying and Storing Rosemary

When drying, exposure of the leaves to the burning rays of the Sun is a real concern in very hot areas. In that case, we would recommend some shade such as that produced by cheese cloth raised above the leaves. Do not let the cloth touch the leaves. Drying inside would be preferable in areas where there is regular rain, but it should be near a window on the north side of the house only. These recommendations are specific for rosemary. Not for other herbs. For storing, we recommend glass jars, not plastic.

## Preparing and Serving

When serving rosemary tea, it is best to present it slightly warm. Do not use the tea you prepared for spraying the leaves as the tea used for drinking. To prepare rosemary tea, again we recommend solarized water, heated to just below boiling - not boiling - and let the leaves steep for at least 5 minutes.

For those hearty souls who would eat the leaf directly, we recommend only one or two at a time. More than that is unnecessary and will produce an instant reaction which may be too difficult to accept.

Ingesting rosemary tea or rosemary sprigs more than once a day is not recommended. More frequent use cannot be tolerated by the soul. We do not recommend rosemary tea or sprigs of leaves for anyone suffering from depression. The reaction of a depressed person to rosemary will be to bring him or her to a level of misunderstanding. They will perceive a Universe that is unreachable and thus, more depressing. Other herbs are beneficial for overcoming the symptoms of depression.

Regardless of the genetic heritage of the plant, these methods will produce the very best that Mother Nature has to offer.

## Footnotes

<sup>1</sup> Rosemary is very sensitive to the Moon. The Moon's intellectual influence is highest in the second lunar quarter (prior to Full Moon) and the fourth quarter (prior to New Moon). The effect of the reflected Lunar light, or lack of light, shining on the plant during those times is very strong. This has a direct influence on minerals, plants, animals and people. When harvesting rosemary leaves, you will find that they are more potent in the second and third lunar quarters of the month. In the other two quarters, the essence of the plant is foretold by the decrease in the moisture.

<sup>2</sup> Here we refer to the constellations. Everything that happens on the Earth is under the influence of the Cosmos, of all that is outside and beyond the Earth. The forces of the Sun differ according to the particular corner of the heavens from which they come. This is not due to the Sun alone, but because as the Sun shines down upon the Earth, behind it in the Cosmos, in this instance, stand Capricorn (ruled by Saturn) or Gemini and Virgo (ruled by Mercury). What these constellations give, the Sun first absorbs, then pours it forth again with its rays. Saturn and Mercury provide the energy necessary for spiritual



attunement. Thus the plant, started or transplanted when the Sun is in Capricorn, Gemini or Virgo, then "lives within" these astronomical constellations. Please see Footnote 10.

<sup>3</sup> From an GW Agriculture point of view, it is the role of rosemary to bring Higher Understanding to the individual. The planet Mercury acts as a kind of Celestial "lubricant" or messenger for Spiritual Ideas. These thoughts would be impeded by other forces and not received by the individual were it not for Mercury the Messenger. The influence of this planet makes it possible for these thoughts to proceed directly into the soul who is listening to them. This is Grace. This is True Spiritual Knowledge.

Saturn, on the other hand brings the Archetypal Thought from Spirit. Mercury, acting somewhat like sulfur in plants, encourages and brings the thought, the Archetypal Thought, directly to the soul. That is why, to do its job, rosemary is ruled by Saturn and Mercury and why they are so important to growing the best plants.

<sup>4</sup> GW Agriculture™ Field Sprays may be purchased from GW Agriculture in McKinney, TX or your local distributor.

<sup>5</sup> For rosemary, collect your compostable materials at any time during the month. Make and complete your compost pile during the waning days of the New Moon, 10 to 14 days before the Full Moon (the end of the first quarter and beginning of the second quarter). In this way you can rely on the lunar forces to draw up sufficient moisture into the pile to maintain the composting process. Making the completed compost pile during the waning days of the Full Moon will draw moisture down and away from the pile. °°GW Agriculture™ Medicinal Compost is made by preparing a normal compost pile of at least 3' by 3' by 3' and spraying the pile with the GW Agriculture Compost Invigorator™ per the instructions.

<sup>6</sup> Never add any strong organic substances to rosemary compost such as redwood, eucalyptus or artemisias. Any fertilizer that you feel needs to be added should be combined with the raw compost and brought through the same cycle before application.

<sup>7</sup> To make Horn Basalt, take cow horns and fill them with basalt that has been ground to a powder and mixed with water to the consistency of a very thin dough. Let it stay underground all summer and then take it out in the late autumn. Homeopathically prepared Horn Basalt is especially good for bark and limbs of trees and bushes.

<sup>8</sup> Generally, the best time to apply compost and fertilizer on gardens and fields is at the end of the third lunar quarter and beginning of the fourth lunar quarter. At this time the combined water and formative forces in the soil are most receptive to them.

<sup>9</sup> Water can be solar treated by filling a glass or clear plastic container, a large barrel or plastic can with water and exposing the it to direct sunlight for at least one day. The hour around 12:00 Noon is most important. Rain water or well water is preferred. Chlorinated water requires several days of exposure before it is useful. Check to be sure that the water does not contain poisons or other contaminates. Studies have shown that plants irrigated with water at a temperature of about 85 to 90 degrees F. produces the most vigorous and luxuriant growth.

<sup>10</sup> The Moon is located in Capricorn (ruled by Saturn) once a month. The Sun is located in Gemini (ruled by Mercury) from May 22 to June 21 and in Virgo (also ruled by Mercury) from August 23 to September 22. The best days for planting, cultivating and harvesting can be determined through the use of the Astronomical Gardening Guide®.

Harvest rosemary leaves which you intend to preserve by drying in the first and fourth lunar quarters. For fresh cooking, harvest any time. A general rule to follow is to harvest crops you intend to preserve by drying (seeds, herbs, dried fruit, etc.) during the New Moon (fourth and first quarters). Harvest crops you intend to save by other means (canning, freezing, etc.) during the Full Moon (second and third quarters).