

Botanical name:
Genus: Capsicum
Species: annuum

Common Name(s):
Hote peppers,
Bird eye Chilly, Thai chilly

Latin Family Name: Solanaceae
English Family Name: Potato

The species encompasses a wide variety of shapes and sizes of peppers, both mild and hot, such as bell peppers, jalapeños, new Mexico chile, and cayenne peppers

The plant

Origin; country or region: Native to Mexico, Central America, and South America

Growth habit: An annual shrub

Flower description: Small white to purple flowers appear in clusters in summer, but are not particularly ornamental

Flowers give way to edible peppers, ranging from extremely hot chili peppers to sweet bell peppers. Some are long, thin, bright red, and spicy; others are thick, large, and sweet-tasting; others still are small and in ornamental shapes and colors, grown as decoration

The bird's eye chili plant is a perennial with small, tapering fruits, often two or three, at a node. The fruits are very pungent

Blooming period/availability: Perennial

Leaf/Foliage Description: Simple, glossy, leaves retain good color

Usage : The more decorative, but slightly less pungent chili, sometimes known as "Thai ornamental", has peppers that point upward on the plant, and range from green to yellow, orange, and then red

STRENGTHS/OPPORTUNITIES:

A good attractive container plant that can add to a pop to your herb garden

The peppers last a long time on the plant and look extremely ornamental

Dried pepper wreaths, or other hangings, lend a burst of color to your décor

Can be easily grown either in an outdoor pot or in the garden

Hot pepper (*Capsicum annuum*) fruits, usually termed as chili, have been used since ancient times as food vegetables, flavoring ingredients, natural colorants, and in traditional medicines. Nowadays, a wide variation of sweet and pungent peppers are consumed worldwide in a large variety of forms. Interestingly, the most important hot pepper at the global level in commercial terms is *C. annuum* with a high number of varieties

WEAKNESS:

Needs extra watering in hot climates

It can be temperamental if its roots are disturbed

Prone to pests

Care & Handling

Longevity:

Water requirements: Keep the soil moist at all times, and never allow the soil to become bone dry as excessively dry soil will cause the plant to drop blossoms

Important to water Thai hot peppers during hot, dry weather

Containerized plants may need to be watered twice daily, as the soil in containers dries out quickly

Light: *Capsicum annuum* requires full sun but is a great heat and drought-tolerant annual

Soil/Nutrition requirements: A very well drained soil to grow

Special care/remarks:

