

Corn Salad—*Valerianella locusta* (L.) Betcke¹

James M. Stephens²

Corn salad is also called lamb's lettuce and fetticus. It is a salad plant, but may also be used as a cooking green. Since it does not have a sharp distinctive flavor, it is often mixed with other more tasty greens such as mustard.

Description

Corn salad forms a rather large rosette of leaves that are spoon-shaped to round, and up to 6 inches long. Sometimes the leaves are covered or bunched together to exclude light for the purpose of blanching.



Figure 1. Corn salad

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Culture

The vegetable plant is grown in Florida similarly to endive or lettuce. It tolerates cool weather, so may be sown from seed in September through May. Space the rows 12 to 18 inches apart, and the plants about 6 inches apart in the row.

In trial plantings at Gainesville, FL, corn salad did not grow as well as expected.

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