



Photo: Plenuska

Common Names:

Common Rue, Herb of Grace

Plant Type: Perennial

Light Requirements:
Full sun to light shade

Height: 2-3 ft tall

Bloom Time: June/July

Hardiness Zones: 4-10

Ruta Graveolens

Ruta graveolens, commonly called Rue, is a hardy perennial native to the Mediterranean and the Balkan peninsula. A member of the citrus family of plants (Rutaceae), Rue was used in ancient times for medicinal and culinary purposes, though it is now grown for primarily ornamental uses.

Rue is a shrubby, clump forming perennial with a woody base; because of this it can be considered a sub-shrub. It has bluish green leaves and small yellow flowers that bloom in the summer. The fern-like foliage is highly aromatic. It grows in full sun to light shade in medium to dry soil and is adaptable to poor and rocky soils. Rue is very drought tolerant once established and resents too much water, so it needs good drainage.

Rue is considered deer and rabbit resistant. It is also a host plant for some species of Swallowtail butterflies including the Black Swallowtail. Take care when handling Rue, it can cause contact dermatitis for those with very sensitive skin.

References:

<https://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/rue>

<https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/plants/ruta-graveolens/>

<https://txmg.org/rue-an-overlooked-herb/>