## Hale's Best Jumbo Cantaloupe

***Cucumis melo var. cantalupensis 'Hale's Best Jumbo'***



*Hale's Best Jumbo Cantaloupe fruit and flesh*
*Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder*

Height: 18 inches

Spread: 6 feet

Spacing: 24 inches

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

**Description:**

A lovely heirloom variety with wonder heat and drought tolerance; produces ribbed, oval fruit with golden beige netting and salmon orange flesh; sweet and firm, great for snacking, desserts and even wrapped in prosciutto

**Edible Qualities**

Hale's Best Jumbo Cantaloupe is an annual vegetable plant that is typically grown for its edible qualities. It produces large tan oval melons (which are technically 'berries') with salmon flesh which are typically harvested when mature. The melons have a sweet taste with a firm texture and a distinctive fragrance.

The melons are most often used in the following ways:

- Fresh Eating
- Eating When Cooked/Prepared
- Juice-Making
- Freezing

**Planting & Growing**

Hale's Best Jumbo Cantaloupe will grow to be about 18 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 6 feet. When planted in rows, individual plants should be spaced approximately 24 inches apart. Because of its vigorous growth habit, it may require staking or supplemental support. This vegetable plant is an annual, which means that it will grow for one season in your garden and then die after producing a crop.

This plant is typically grown in a designated vegetable garden. It should only be grown in full sunlight. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone over the growing season to conserve soil moisture. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America, and it is considered by many to be an heirloom variety.