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*Perilla frutescens* var. *crispa*

[Synonyms : *Mentha reticulosa*, *Ocimum crispum*, *Perilla frutescens* var. *japonica*, *Perilla nankinensis*, *Perilla ocimoides* var. *crispa*, *Perilla ocymoides* var. *crispa*]

**RUFFLED GREEN PERILLA** is an annual.

It is also known as *Ao chirimen shiso* (Japanese), Green perilla, Green shiso, *Pérille verte cultivée* (French), *Ri ben bai su* (Chinese), Ruffle-leaved green perilla, *Shiso* (Japanese), and *Zhou bai su* (Chinese-Cantonese).

*Frutescens* is derived from Latin *frutico* (to shoot out, become bushy). *Crispa* means ‘closely curled, finely or irregularly wavy’.

South-eastern Asian experts note that ruffled green perilla is valued most as a condiment and spice and then as a source of vegetable oil and as a medicinal plant in that region.