



Some varieties have stripes on the external skin. Inside pulp is soft and used for cooking.

Cucumbers originated in India. Large genetic variety of cucumber has been observed in different parts of India. It has been cultivated for at least 3,000 years in Western [Asia](#) , and was probably introduced to other parts of Europe by the Romans. Records of cucumber cultivation appear in

[France](#)

in the 9th century, England in the 14th century, and in North America by the mid-16th century.

In the United States, consumption of pickles has been slowing, while consumption of fresh cucumbers is rising.

The cucumber is a creeping vine that roots in the ground and grows up [trellises](#) or other supporting frames, wrapping around ribbing with thin, spiraling tendrils. The plant has large leaves that form a canopy over the fruit.

