Sallyfun™ XL Blue Salvia

Salvia farinacea 'Sallyfun XL Blue'



Sallyfun XL Blue Salvia flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 3 feet

Spread: 3 feet

Spacing: 18 inches

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 6

Other Names: Mealycup Sage

Group/Class: Sallyfun series

Description:

A wonderful heat and drought tolerant variety, producing long flower spikes covered in silvery-blue blooms, rising above fragrant green foliage; extra-large habit, perfect for large containers, borders, garden landscapes and fresh cut flower arrangements

Ornamental Features

Sallyfun XL Blue Salvia has masses of beautiful spikes of silvery blue flowers with lavender overtones rising above the foliage from early summer to mid fall, which are most effective when planted in groupings. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its fragrant narrow leaves remain green in color throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Sallyfun XL Blue Salvia is an herbaceous perennial with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its medium texture blends into the garden, but can always be balanced by a couple of finer or coarser plants for an effective composition.

This plant will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and may require the occasional pruning to look its best. It is a good choice for attracting butterflies and hummingbirds to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Sallyfun XL Blue Salvia is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

Sallyfun XL Blue Salvia will grow to be about 30 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 3 feet. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 18 inches apart. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 5 years. As an herbaceous perennial, this plant will usually die back to the crown each winter, and will regrow from the base each spring. Be careful not to disturb the crown in late winter when it may not be readily seen!

This plant should only be grown in full sunlight. It prefers dry to average moisture levels with very well-drained soil, and will often die in standing water. It is considered to be drought-tolerant, and thus makes an ideal choice for a low-water garden or xeriscape application. It is not particular as to soil type or pH, and is able to handle environmental salt. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This is a selection of a native North American species. It can be propagated by cuttings; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

Sallyfun XL Blue Salvia is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. With its upright habit of growth, it is best suited for use as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the center of the pot, surrounded by smaller plants and those that spill over the edges. It is even sizeable enough that it can be grown alone in a suitable container. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.