Cleveland Sage

Salvia clevelandii

Height: 4 feet

Spread: 8 feet

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 8b

Other Names: Blue Sage, Fragrant Sage

Description:

A fast growing and highly aromatic native sage, that produces pretty lavender to dark purple, rounded flower clusters; best on well drained flats, bluffs, or gentle slopes

Ornamental Features

Cleveland Sage has masses of beautiful clusters of violet flowers with blue overtones rising above the foliage from late spring to late summer, which are most effective when planted in groupings. The flowers are excellent for cutting. It has attractive grayish green evergreen foliage. The fragrant narrow leaves are highly ornamental and remain grayish green throughout the winter.

Landscape Attributes

Cleveland Sage is a multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with a mounded form. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other landscape plants with less refined foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance shrub, and should only be pruned after flowering to avoid removing any of the current season's flowers. It is a good choice for attracting bees, 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.

Cleveland Sage is recommended for the following landscape applications;



Cleveland Sage flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Cleveland Sage in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

- Mass Planting
- Rock/Alpine Gardens
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

Cleveland Sage will grow to be about 4 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 8 feet. It tends to fill out right to the ground and therefore doesn't necessarily require facer plants in front. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 5 years.



Cleveland Sage foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

This shrub should only be grown in full sunlight. It is very adaptable to both dry and moist growing conditions, but will not tolerate any standing water. It is considered to be drought-tolerant, and thus makes an ideal choice for xeriscaping or the moisture-conserving landscape. It is not particular as to soil type or pH, and is able to handle environmental salt. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This species is native to parts of North America..

Cleveland Sage makes a fine choice for the outdoor landscape, but it is also well-suited for use in outdoor pots and containers. Because of its height, it is often used 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 grown in a container, it may not perform exactly as indicated on the tag - this is to be expected. Also note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.