

Culture Information

Salvia

Plant type: Tender annual
Uses: Bedding and containers
Plant height: 25 - 40cm

Sowing: Sow early to mid February for *Splenden* types for 9cm pot sales in May. Sow late February to March for pack production. Later sowings can be made for small pack and strip box production. Sow January to February for Perennial types.
21 - 24°C. Cover with an average layer of medium Vermiculite.
Germination in 2 - 3 weeks.

Approximate crop timing (mid season)

Sowing to transplanting	3 - 4 weeks
Sowing to flowering	8 - 10 weeks
Seedlings to flowering	6 - 7 weeks
Ball 350 to flowering	5 weeks
Ball 230 to flowering	4 - 5 weeks

Growing on:

Temperature 16 -18°C nights and 20 - 23°C days.

pH 5.8 - 6.2

Feeding Feed regularly with balanced N:P:K fertiliser. Salvias are sensitive to high nutrient salt concentration. Try to maintain an EC level of 0.75 – 1.0.

Growth regulation Salvias will respond to Daminozide from 4 -6 true leaf stage.

Pack/Pot size Packs. 9 -10.5cm pots or 11-13cm (Salvia patens and farinacea)

Planting out spacing 20 - 25cm

Advice Salvia prefers high light conditions. Low light levels can induce stretching. Downward cupping and yellowing of leaves can indicate too cool a temperature or too high EC level in the compost. Yellowing on mature leaves is often associated with a lack of magnesium.

Common diseases Botrytis, Powdery Mildew and Rust

Ball Colegrave cultural information is issued as a guide to growers, based on our own trials experience. It is not intended as a blueprint for growing. Any chemicals referred to should be used only in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.