

Culture Information

Salvia

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

Sowing: Sow early to mid- February for 9cm pot sales in May. Sow late February-March for pack production. Later sowings can be made for small pack and strip box production. 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.