

Limonium latifolium Sea Lavender

The delicate blossoms of *Limonium latifolium* (Sea Lavender) create a soft, purple haze, lasting from July through September. Dense cloud-like sprays of minute lavender-blue flowers are at their peak around August and September. A variety of short-tongued bees and butterflies are attracted to the flowers. Large, glossy green, paddle-shaped basal rosette leaves form an attractive groundcover in early spring. In fall, leaves and stems transition to a bright or burnt red color. Great to tuck in among other perennials as the low foliage remains mostly hidden and allows the flowers to stand out. Often used as a backdrop for taller, rougher textured plants, it can also be used as a stand-alone plant when a soft texture is desired along a border edge of a garden. It grows best in full sun, dry to moist, well-drained conditions. Drought, deer, salt, and heat tolerant.

Botanical Name: *Limonium latifolium*

Common Name: Sea Lavender

Family: Plumbaginaceae

Nativity: Not Native to US

USDA Zone: 4 to 9

Light Type: Full Sun

Soil Type: Sand, Loam, Clay

Soil Preferences: Moist, well-drained

Soil Moisture: Dry to Moist

Typical height (ft): 1.5-2.5'

Typical width (ft): 1-1.5'

Foliage: Blue Green

Bloom Time: July, August, September

Bloom: Lavender, pale blue

Ecological features: Provides floral resources for bees and butterflies

Tolerance of: Deer, Drought, Salt, Heat

Additional notes: Clouds of tiny flowers float above basal foliage clump; nice in a dried arrangement -- to dry, stems should be cut just as the flowers begin to open, and hung upside down in a warm, dark place.

Companion plants: Coneflower (*Echinacea* spp.), Switchgrass (*Panicum* spp.), or Russian Sage (*Perovskia atriplicifolia*)

For more information see:

<http://www.newmoonnursery.com/plant/Limonium-latifolium>

<http://www.perennials.com/plants/limonium-latifolium.html>

<http://www.gardening.cornell.edu/homegardening/scenee5b0.html>

<https://plantlust.com/plants/35541/limonium-latifolium/>

Images of *Limonium latifolium*



Breitblättriger Steppenschleier, Strandflieder, Meerlavendel, lat. *Limonium latifolium* 02.jpg
Foliage



Geneva Botanical Garden - limonium latifolium.jpg
Plant form



Limonium latifolium 1zz.jpg
Close look of lavender-blue flowers



Limonium latifolium_1.jpg
Fall color



Limonium latifolium_2.jpg
Late summer flower stems

Image choices for narrative:

Geneva Botanical Garden - limonium latifolium.jpg -- plant form

Limonium latifolium_2.jpg - Late summer flower stems