

Perovskia atriplicifolia 'Little Spire' Little Spire Russian Sage

Perovskia atriplicifolia 'Little Spire' (Little Spire Russian Sage) is an airy, lavender sage with compact form and robust fragrance. This woody perennial is petite, growing up to 2' tall and about as wide. Branches feature square stems characteristic of the mint family. Icy blue-green narrow leaves whorl upward along the bluish stems, which feature extensive branching with lavender flowers on terminal panicles. Both the leaves and flowers of this plant produce an herbal scent when handled, and clippings make delicate, fragrant cut arrangements. Perovskia atriplicifolia 'Little Spire' does best with full sun, but can tolerate afternoon shade. It is drought, deer and rabbit resistant, and attracts pollinators such as butterflies and bees. In late fall, it produces tiny, seed pods on woody branches that hold form in the winter; the entire plant turning a beautiful silver hue. This plant often spreads by suckering, and can grow well in sandy or loam soils that must be well-drained. Cut back in early spring.

Botanical Name: Perovskia atriplicifolia 'Little Spire'

Common Name: Little Spire Russian Sage

Family: Lamiaceae

Nativity: Not Native to US

USDA Zone: 5 to 9

Light Type: Full sun

Soil Type: Loam, Sand

Soil Preferences: Must have well-drained soil

Soil Moisture: Dry to Medium

Typical height (ft): 1.5-2'

Typical width (ft): 2-2.5'

Foliage: Gray green, silvery, fragrant

Bloom Time: July, August, September

Bloom: Lavender, purple

Ecological features: Provides floral resources for bees and butterflies

Tolerance of: Rabbit, Deer, Drought, Clay Soil, Dry Soil, Air Pollution

Additional notes: A more compact Russian sage variety; fragrant flowers, great for cutting

Companion plants: Asters, Black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia fulgida*), Purple Coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*), Moonshine Yarrow (*Achillea 'Moonshine'*), Hyssop (*Agastache* spp.), 'Li'l Bang Daybreak' Tickseed (*Coreopsis 'Li'l Bang Daybreak'*)

For more information see:

<https://www.americanmeadows.com/perennials/russian-sage/russian-sage-little-spire>

<http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinderDetails.aspx?taxonid=254299&isprofile=0&basic=Perovskia>

<https://www.highcountrygardens.com/perennial-plants/perovskia/perovskia-little-spires>

<https://www.monrovia.com/plant-catalog/plants/306/little-spire-russian-sage/>

<https://www.gardeningknowhow.com/ornamental/flowers/russian-sage-flowers/russian-sage-care.htm>

Images of Perovskia atriplicifolia 'Little Spire'



Perovskia atriplicifolia Little Spire 1zz.jpg

Flowers close-up



Perovskia atriplicifolia 'Little Spire' -1.jpg
Fine-textured flowers and foliage



Perovskia atriplicifolia 'Little Spire'-2.jpg
Plant form



Perovskia atriplicifolia 'Little Spire'-3.jpg
Flower contrast



Perovskia atriplicifolia 'Little Spire'-4.JPG
Spring foliage



Perovskia atriplicifolia 'Little Spire'-5.jpg
Panicles close-up

Image choices for narrative:

Perovskia atriplicifolia Little Spire 1zz.jpg - Flowers close-up

Perovskia atriplicifolia 'Little Spire'-3.jpg - Flower contrast & plant form