

Salvia nemorosa 'Crystal Blue' Crystal Blue Sage

Salvia nemorosa "Crystal Blue" (Crystal Blue Sage) is unique among sages for its delicate, pale blue flowers. The fragrance of flowers and crushed leaves is refreshingly herbal. This plant is well-suited to mass plantings in borders or in a potted patio arrangement. Good drainage and full sun are essential conditions for this plant. From May to July, this plant boasts dense flower spires that attract bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds. The pale blue flower spikes contrast well against the dark gray-green, wrinkled leaves. The tidy, compact form of this plant makes a neat addition to the garden. Trimming back spent flowers can encourage re-blooming in later in the season. The flowers are great in cut or dried arrangements that bring the pleasant scent indoors. This tough plant is tolerant of drought, salt, heat, and resists herbivore browse.

Botanical Name: Salvia nemorosa 'Crystal Blue'

Common Name: Crystal Blue Sage

Family: Lamiaceae

Nativity: Not Native to US

USDA Zone: 3 to 8

Light Type: full sun

Soil Type: sand, loam

Soil Moisture: dry to medium

Soil Preference: moist but well-drained soils, lean

Typical height (ft): 1.5-2'. Flowers rise above foliage.

Typical width (ft): 2-3'

Foliage: Gray-green, wrinkled leaves. Herbal scent.

Bloom Time: May, June, July

Bloom: pale blue

Ecological features: Provides floral resources for bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds

Tolerance of: Deer, drought, rabbits, salt, heat

Additional notes: This salvia has limited nursery availability; strong herbal scent from flowers and foliage

Companion plants: Milkweeds (*Asclepias* spp.), Asters (*Symphotrichum* spp.), Indigos (*Baptisia* spp.), Coneflowers (*Echinacea* spp.), Sneezeweeds (*Helenium* spp.), Blazing Star (*Liatris* spp.), Bee-Balm (*Monarda* spp.), Nodding Onion (*Allium cernuum*), Joe-pye Weed (*Eutrochium* spp.), Grasses

For more information see:

<https://www.midwestgroundcovers.com/plant/Salvia-nemorosa-Crystal-Blue>

<https://www.gardeningknowhow.com/ornamental/flowers/salvia/growing-different-salvia-types.htm>

<https://www.gardenia.net/plant/salvia-nemorosa-crystal-blue>

<https://www.bluestoneperennials.com/SACB.html>

<https://www.provenwinners.com/plants/salvia/color-spires-crystal-blue-perennial-salvia-salvia-nemorosa>

Images of Salvia nemorosa 'Crystal Blue'



0736441.jpg

Spires of light blue flowers contrast with green foliage and purple salvias



Salvia nemorosa 'Crystal Blue' PP26344 CPBRAf 0001 low res.jpg
Plant form – compact with profuse blooms floating above foliage.



0736440.jpg
Close-up of branched flower spires.



Salvia nemorosa 'Crystal Blue' PP26344 CPBRAf 0003 low res.jpg
Mass planting for big impact.



Salvia-Crystal-Blue-photo-Walters-Gardens.jpg
Use as a potted plant.

Image choices for narrative:

0736441.jpg - Spires of light blue flowers contrast with green foliage and purple salvias

Salvia nemorosa 'Crystal Blue' PP26344 CPBRAAF 0001 low res.jpg - Plant form – compact with profuse blooms floating above foliage.