

Salvia sp.

Genus: Salvia
Family: Lamiaceae
Order: Lamiales
Class: Magnoliopsida
Phylum: Angiosperms



Key Facts:

Toxicity: Generally non-toxic, but some species may cause mild gastrointestinal upset if ingested in large quantities.

Invasiveness: Varies by species can become invasive in certain areas.

Plant Type: Herbaceous perennial, though some species are annuals or shrubs.

Lifespan: Perennial (typically 2-3 years, but some can last longer with proper care).

Characteristics:

Plant Height: Varies widely; can range from 15 cm (6 in) to over 1.2 meters (4 ft).

Spread: Typically 30-60 cm (12-24 in), though some species spread more.

Leaf Color: Often green, but can vary to grayish or variegated depending on species.

Bloom Time: Usually summer to fall, but varies by species.

Flower Size: Generally small to medium; varies widely among species.

Flower Color: Includes shades of blue, purple, pink, red, and white.

Distribution:

Origin: Native to North and South America, Europe, and Asia.

Habitat: Prefers tropical forests to arid deserts and grasslands.

Care:

Difficulty: Generally easy to grow for most species; specific needs vary by species.

Toughness: Often quite resilient; drought-tolerant once established.

Maintenance: Low to moderate; may require occasional pruning to maintain shape and encourage flowering.

Watering: Water regularly but allow soil to dry out between waterings. Overwatering can lead to root rot.

Pruning: Prune after flowering to maintain shape and promote new growth.

Propagation: Can be propagated by seeds, cuttings, or division. Seeds should be started indoors or directly sown in spring.

Repotting: Typically not necessary for garden plants; container plants may need repotting every 1-2 years.

Conditions:

Temperature: Generally tolerant of a wide range, but prefers temperatures between 15-25°C. Some species are more frost-tolerant, while others may be sensitive to cold.

Hardiness Zone: Varies by species; many are hardy in zones 4-9.

Sun Requirements: Prefers full sun to partial shade, depending on the species.

Soil Type: Prefers well-draining soil. Some species thrive in sandy or gravelly soils, while others do well in loamy soils.

Use: Ideal for garden beds, borders, and container gardening. Can also be used in xeriscaping due to drought tolerance.

Location: Thrives in warm, dry climates.

Pests and Diseases: Generally pest-resistant, but can occasionally suffer from aphids, spider mites, and fungal diseases. Proper spacing and air circulation can help prevent most issues.

