



Photo: missouribotanicalgarden.org

Common Names:
Hybrid Sage, Perennial Salvia, Perennial Sage, Wood Sage

Plant Type: Perennial

Light Requirements:
Full Sun

Height: 2-2.5 ft

Bloom Time: Spring-Summer

Hardiness Zones:
4-10

Salvia x sylvestris

Salvia is a genus of plants in the mint family (Lamiaceae). The genus is large, containing hundreds of unique species. Salvias are native to Europe, Western Asia, and North Africa, but grow well in many areas of North America. The salvia grown here in our garden is most likely *Salvia x sylvestris*, which is a hybrid cross of two other species of Salvia.

Salvia grows best in full sun and tolerates a range of soil types. It tolerates moist soil with good drainage, but it can also handle drought conditions. Salvia blooms in the late spring through early summer, with spikes of purple flowers along upright stems. After flower stalks have bloomed and turn brown, plants can be cut back by about 1/3 or their original size, which will keep the plant tidy and may result in sporadic additional bloom throughout the summer. If plants begin to flop or look unsightly, they can be cut back to the basal foliage.

Salvia attracts bees and butterflies, and the leaves are highly aromatic when crushed. As a result, deer and rabbits tend to avoid this plant.

References:

<https://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder>

<https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/plants/salvia-x-digenea/>

<https://ngb.org/year-of-the-salvia-nemorosa/>