

Lavandula Angustifolia

(*Lavandula angustifolia*)

Propagation

- Choose a well-drained medium with an EC of 0.75 to 0.80 mmhos and a pH of 5.9 to 6.2.
- Stick cuttings the day of arrival. Lavender cuttings should not be stored.
- Soil temperature should be maintained at 70 to 72° F (21 to 24°C) until roots are visible.
- A rooting hormone can be applied to promote early, uniform rooting.
- Lavender prefers high humidity over mist. Keep under low mist or place cuttings under a tent and mist periodically each hour for 7 to 10 days to maintain turgidity. Avoid over-application of mist.
- Begin fertilization with 50 to 75 ppm N when roots become visible.
- During root development maintain low-moderate moisture levels in the soil. Avoid saturation of media.
- Can be pinched after roots have been established. Be sure to leave 4 or 5 active internodes.
- Rooted cuttings should be ready for transplanting 42 to 56 days after sticking.

Growing On to Finish

Media

- Use media with good aeration and drainage.
- Prefers a medium that will dry regularly between watering like most Lavender.
- A pH of 5.9 to 6.2 is optimum.

Temperature

- **Nights:** 55 to 65°F (13 to 18°C)
- **Days:** 65 to 75°F (18 to 24°C)
- Temperatures below those recommended will slow plant growth significantly.
- An average daily temperature of 70°F (21°C) is optimal, but plants will tolerate a wide range of warm temperatures.
- Flowering benefits from a cold treatment.
- It is best to keep Lavender SuperBlue actively growing. Plants become dormant at cold temperatures under short days and can take longer to resume growth when allowed to go dormant.

Light

- Will perform best under moderate to high light levels of 5,000 to 8,000 f.c. (50,000 to 80,000 Lux).
- Plants grown under short days will bulk up more uniformly. However Lavender 'SuperBlue' is naturally compact and will bulk well under long

days.

Watering

- The media should be allowed to dry regularly between watering and never saturated. However, plants should not be allowed to wilt at any time.
- Leach regularly to avoid the buildup of high soluble salt levels.

Fertilizer

Use a balanced fertilizer at a rate of 125 to 150 ppm. Periodic use of a calcium-based fertilizer should help optimize the nutrient levels.

Pinching

Lavender 'SuperBlue' should be pinched once for smaller pot sizes, and twice for larger containers. Pinch as soon as the plants are well-rooted. Pinching will maximize branching and create a fuller plant.

Controlling Growth

- Under most conditions, will not require growth regulator treatments.
- Responsive to B-Nine at 1,500 to 4,000 ppm if needed.
- These recommendations for plant growth regulators should be used only as general guidelines. Growers must trial all chemicals under their particular conditions.

Common Problems

Insects: Thrips, Whitefly, Aphids, Fungus Gnats

Diseases: 'SuperBlue' is relatively disease-free. Pythium and Rhizoctonia can result from overwatering.

Problem: Plant collapse

Causes: Plants grown in saturated media for extended periods of time (Pythium); Rooted cuttings transplanted too deeply

Problem: Excessive vegetative growth and lack of flowers

Causes: Excessive ammonium-based fertilizer; Over-fertilization under low light conditions; Low light and over-watering; saturated media

Problem: Yellowing of young foliage

Causes: Saturated media

Problem: Foliage necrosis

Causes: High soluble salts in media; Excessive water stress

Problem: Poor branching and thin plants

Causes: Low fertilization during early stages of growth; Low light conditions

Crop Schedule & Uses (Crop Schedule in Weeks)

1 PPP* 4-in. (10-cm) pot
Unrooted cutting 14 - 16 weeks

Rooted cutting 7 - 8 weeks

1 PPP* 6-in. (15-cm) pot
Unrooted cutting 16 - 19 weeks

Rooted cutting 9 - 11 weeks

3 PPP* 10 to 12-in. (25 to 30-cm) pot
Unrooted cutting 19 - 22 weeks

Rooted cutting 12 - 14 weeks

*PPP: Plants per pot or basket

NOTE: Growers should use the information presented here as a starting point. Crop times will vary depending on the climate, location, time of year, and greenhouse environmental conditions. Chemical and PGR recommendations are only guidelines. It is the responsibility of the applicator to read and follow all the current label directions for the specific chemical being used in accordance with all regulations.

