

Salvia Species Arctic Blaze™

(*Salvia hybrida*)

Propagation

- Choose a well-drained medium with an EC of 0.75 to 0.80 mmhos and a pH of 5.8 to 6.2.
- Stick cuttings the day of arrival if possible. Otherwise, store at 45°F for not more than 18 hours before sticking.
- Soil temperature should be maintained at 70 to 72°F (21 to 24°C) until roots are visible.
- A rooting hormone of 500 ppm IBA should be applied to promote early, uniform rooting.
- Average days with mist 12 to 15 days.
- Begin fertilization with 50 to 75 ppm N when roots become visible.
- During root development maintain moderate moisture levels in the soil. Avoid saturation of media.
- Should be pinched after roots have been established. Be sure to leave 4 or 5 active internodes.
- Rooted cuttings should be ready for transplanting 35 to 42 days after sticking.

Key Tips

Use low mist settings; do not oversaturate rooting media. Root zone temperatures of 70°F (21°C).

Growing On to Finish

Media

- Use media with good aeration and drainage.
- Prefers a medium that is high in organic matter.
- A pH of 5.8 to 6.2 is optimum.

Temperature

- Nights: 55 to 70°F (13 to 21°C)
- Days: 60 to 80°F (15 to 27°C)
- Temperatures below those recommended will slow plant growth significantly.
- An average daily temperature of 60 to 80°F (15 to 27°C) is optimal, but plants will tolerate a wide range of temperatures.
- Vernalization not required for flowering.

Light

- Will perform best under moderate to high light levels of 5,000 to 8,000 f.c. (50,000 to 80,000 Lux).
- *S. greggii* do not require long days to flower.

Watering

- The media should be allowed to dry moderately 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 150 to 175 ppm. Periodic use of a calcium-based fertilizer should help optimize the nutrient levels.

Pinching

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 more full plant.

Controlling Growth

Under most conditions, will not require growth regulator treatments.

Common Problems

Insects: Thrips, whitefly, spider mites

Diseases: None noted

Key Tips

Transplant into soil temperatures with a minimum of 60°F (15°C) for best establishment.

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 older 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 – Spring planting is recommended for this crop. If Summer-planted, be sure to have plants well established before the start of short days.)

1 PPP* 1-qt. (10-cm) Pot

Unrooted cutting Not recommended

Rooted cutting Not recommended

1 PPP* 1-gal. (15-cm) Pot

Unrooted cutting 14 - 16 weeks

Rooted cutting 10 - 12 weeks

3 PPP* 2 to 3-gal. (25 to 30-cm) Pot

Unrooted cutting 16 - 18 weeks

Rooted cutting 12 - 14 weeks

*PPP: Plants per pot or basket

