

# ***Salvia farinacea***

## ***Evolution® Violet***

Farinaceous Sage, Mealycup Sage

### **Culture guide**

#### **Uses:**

Plant for bedding, pot and container plant for patio, cut flower production

#### **Exposure:**

Sun - Partial shade

#### **Garden height:**

18" / 45 cm

#### **Crop time:**

12-20 weeks

#### **Sow time:**

December-April for flowering in pots from April onwards; May-June for flowering in pots from August onwards

#### **Sowing method:**

2-3 seeds per plug, sowing directly into pot is recommended

#### **Germination:**

5-10 days at 72-76 °F (22-24 °C) in a media with very low soluble salt levels. Light aids germination and uniformity of germination. Keep soil uniformly moist but not wet keep relative humidity levels near 95 %.

#### **Growing On:**

Transplant into pack, pots or larger containers with a well-drained media. Avoid high fertilization levels until plants have rooted out into the pot. Finish at 60-65 °F (15-18 °C).

#### **Media:**

Use a well-drained, growing perennial substrate with 0-15 % clay, 0-15 % parts (e. g. bark, wood fibres, perlite), 1-3 kg/m<sup>3</sup> complete balanced fertilizer, 0-2 kg/m<sup>3</sup> slow release fertilizer (3-6 months), iron-chelate, micronutrients, pH: 5.5-6.5. Field: humus, loamy soils with good drainage. Standard fertilization: 50-80 g/m<sup>2</sup> of a slow release fertilizer.

#### **Temperature:**

Grow at 14-16 °C. When the buds are visible, the temperature should be decreased to 14 °C. *S. farinacea* does not tolerate frost.

#### **Fertilization:**

Moderate-high fertilization levels are required. Fertilize the crop weekly with 200-250 ppm nitrogen (at 0 kg/m<sup>3</sup> slow release fertilizer in substrate), using a complete balanced fertilizer. The roots are sensitive to high salt levels in substrates. Avoid high fertilizer concentrations, it is advisable to fertilize several times with low concentrations weekly.

Ref. : 7 May 2013 [www.benary.com](http://www.benary.com)



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