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### **Oriental Dove Sage**

***Salvia 'Dysmau'***

Plant Height: 18 inches

Flower Height: 24 inches

Spread: 18 inches

Spacing: 16 inches

Sunlight: ☉ ●

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Other Names: Perennial Salvia, Meadow Clary, Meadow Sage

#### **Description:**

An upright, bushy, evergreen variety presenting purple to purple-pink flowers with cream edges all season; a great addition to borders or beds, and looks fantastic in containers; heat and drought tolerant; attracts pollinators; low maintenance

#### **Ornamental Features**

Oriental Dove Sage has masses of beautiful spikes of pink flowers with violet overtones and creamy white edges rising above the foliage from early summer to mid fall, which are most effective when planted in groupings. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its fragrant oval leaves remain light green in color throughout the year.

#### **Landscape Attributes**

Oriental Dove Sage is an herbaceous annual with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other garden plants with less refined foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant. Trim off the flower heads after they fade and die to encourage more blooms late into the season. It is a good choice for attracting bees, butterflies and hummingbirds to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Oriental Dove Sage is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting



*Oriental Dove Sage in bloom*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



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### Planting & Growing

Oriental Dove Sage will grow to be about 18 inches tall at maturity extending to 24 inches tall with the flowers, with a spread of 18 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 16 inches apart. Although it's not a true annual, this plant can be expected to behave as an annual in our climate if left outdoors over the winter, usually needing replacement the following year. As such, gardeners should take into consideration that it will perform differently than it would in its native habitat.

This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. To help this plant achieve its best flowering performance, periodically apply a flower-boosting fertilizer from early spring through into the active growing season. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in rich soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid. It can be propagated by division; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

Oriental Dove Sage is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. With its upright habit of growth, it is best suited for use as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the center of the pot, surrounded by smaller plants and those that spill over the edges. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.

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