

June 2018 Plant of the Month

Mojave Desert Sage, Desert Purple Sage

Salvia dorrii

Plant Form: Evergreen Sub-shrub

Water Use: Very Low

Mature Size: 1-2 ft. tall x 2-3 ft. wide

Exposure: Full Sun, Part Shade

Bloom Time: Spring (May), Summer (June-July)

Native to: California, Arizona, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Utah,
Washington (between 2500 - 8500 feet)

Hardiness: Cold Hardy to 10°F

Mojave Desert Sage is an aromatic, native "shrublet" with striking blue-violet flowers that emerge from purplish, ball-shaped flower heads along the stems. This compact, herbaceous perennial is impervious to rabbits and deer, while enticing all types of bees, pollinators, butterflies, and hummingbirds. A compact, moderately fast-growing sub-shrub, this gem of a plant has a wonderful minty aroma, released when the silver-gray, spoon-shaped leaves are rubbed. This evergreen plant usually spreads wider than high. Mojave Desert Sage is a heavy bloomer that loves the hottest, most challenging sites in your yard. Trim off seed heads and lightly prune to shape after flowering. While more water results in more flowers, be careful not to water in summer. This mint-family treasure can be used for borders, accents, bank stabilization, and in gardens designed for butterflies, hummingbirds, bees, and birds.



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