

*Lavandula angustifolia*

English Lavender



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Hort 5051

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# Taxonomy

- Scientific Name: *Lavandula angustifolia*
- Synonyms: *Lavendula vera*, *Lavendula spica*, *Lavendula officinalis*
- Common Names: English Lavendar, True Lavendar, Common Lavendar
- Family: Lamiaceae

# Geographic Distribution

- Continents: North America, Europe, Australia
- Countries: US, France, Spain, Italy, Germany, Turkey
- Latitude: 30-40 degrees North
- Altitude: 3000 ft
- Climate: hot, dry, alkaline soil, sunny
- Non-invasive

# Native Habitats

- Mountains of Southern Europe in the Mediterranean basin
- Chalky, rocky, sandy soil



# Taxonomic Description

- Habit: perennial shrub with grayish-blue evergreen-like foliage, and long spike flowers (pink, white, blue, violet)
- Roots: fibrous, spreading
- Bloom: July-September
- Many USES!
  - ornamental, craft, medicinal, culinary

# Taxonomic Description

- Ornamental
  - borders, hedges, edging
- Craft
  - cut flowers, dried flowers, potpourri, wreaths
- Culinary
  - tea, vinegar, jam, ice cream, main dish



# Taxonomic Description

## ■ Medicinal

- essential oils, perfumes, lotions, soaps
- effective sedative for relaxing nervous system, and soothing burns/wounds
- powerful antiseptic used to kill bacteria
- can also treat headaches, palsy, toothaches, coughs, digestive system, etc



# Cultivars

'Nana Alba' : white flower -  
ornamental

'Rosea': pink flower – best  
for bouquets and used to  
enhance food with its  
mild flavor

'Irene Doyle': blue flower-  
flowers twice and has  
great essential oil  
properties

'Munstead': purple flower –  
prized for a great dried  
flower and sweet rich  
taste it brings to food





# Propagation

- Seed: not true to type, very slow growth
- Vegetative: more consistent better results
  - take soft wood cuttings from non flowering stems at 70 degrees F

# Crop Ideotype

- Brightly colored spike inflorescence
- Pungent scent
- Dries easily
- Essential oil potential

# Market Niche

- Target sales date: none specific, year round. Spring-Fall in northern climate
- Competition: other herbs, or other cultivars used for a specific quality
- Major Crop: has potential, is already very popular
- Limitations/problems: none really, except if more cultivars keep being produced competition will get high
- Identifiable to public: 'Grosso'- yes  
'MLC Lavender Select', 'A-New Mexico' – no
- How soon available: 5-10 years to determine how to make it flower in this cold environment (zone 4)

# Anticipated Cultural Requirements

- Winter Hardiness (USDA Zones): 5-10 (aiming for zone 4)
- Heat/Drought tolerant: very tolerant, can grow in harsh conditions
- Temperature: Day: 60-65 degrees F, Night: 55 degrees F
- Light: Full sun, long days to help flowering
- Good Ventilation
- Nutrition: low, but if needed use organic chicken manure and bone meal. High concentrations lead to poor essential oil content
- Soil: well-drained, sandy, neutral-alkaline
- PGRs: none
- Container size: 4"-6"
- Disease: verticillium wilt, Phytophthora/Armillaria root rot, and Botrytis

# Production Schedule

- Estimated Weeks:
  - cutting to root: 3-4 weeks
  - FBI/FBD: 25-30 weeks
  - shipping: 25 weeks
- Estimated treatments:
  - 1000 ppm IBA on cuttings
  - vernalization(35 degrees F) during the winter months to produce strong growth
- Target sales date: year round, but May-September for the northern ornamentals

# Needs Assessment for Genetic Improvement

- Research on photoperiod for the cold hardy cultivars
- Improvement for flowering
- Improvement on production for a faster growth rate to maturity

# Works Cited

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