

Lavender

“Lavandula”

Full sun/partial shade/Summer

1’-4’ x 2’-4

Annuals, perennials

Narrow, gray-green foliage

Fragrant lavender-blue flowers



Culture: This popular herb is difficult to grow. Lavender, a woody plant, demands dry conditions. Excellent drainage is essential. Overwatering or damp weather causes disease and death. Grow lavender in raised beds to improve drainage. It grows best in full sun and in sandy soil with minimal water. Lavender seeds are difficult to germinate, so transplants are preferred. Lavender is mostly propagated by cuttings, layering or root division.

Growth Habit: Lavender matures into a shrubby form with narrow, gray or green leaves and flower stalks. It grows to 1’-4’ x 2’-4, depending on variety. The foliage and flowers are very attractive in the garden.

Bloom: Lavender has spikes of purple, long-lasting fragrant flowers. (Pink and white forms exist, but they are not very reliable.)

Notes: Many lavender varieties exist including *L. angustifolia*, a hardy English lavender that is grown as an annual in humid climates. *L. dentata*, French lavender, is frost tender and has both gray and green leafed varieties. Perennial *L. stoechas*, Spanish lavender, is gray leaved with a broad, flat-topped cluster of flowers. It may be easier to grow in North Central Texas. Lavender flowers/stalks are used medicinally and in making fragrant oils, teas, crafts and potpourri.

Lavender can be viewed in the Master Gardener’s Demonstration Garden located behind Hood County Annex 1 on 1410 W. Pearl St, Granbury, Texas