



Cooperative Extension Service
Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences

*Salvia uliginosa*¹

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Introduction

Bog Sage is an upright to spreading perennial that eventually attains a height of 3 to 4 feet (Fig. 1). The coarse-textured leaves are light green to dark green in color depending on soil conditions and fertilization practices. Bog Sage blooms throughout the spring and summer with electric blue flowers. This herbaceous perennial may be used as a ground cover or background plant. It presents a nice massed display and is exceptionally beautiful when planted along with ornamental with grasses.

General Information

Scientific name: *Salvia uliginosa*

Pronunciation: SAL-vee-uh yoo-lidge-jin-NOE-suh

Common name(s): Bog Salvia, Bog Sage

Family: *Labiatae*

Plant type: herbaceous; ground cover

USDA hardiness zones: 8 through 10A (Fig. 2)

Planting month for zone 8: year round

Planting month for zone 9: year round

Planting month for zone 10: year round

Origin: not native to North America

Uses: border; cut flowers; attracts butterflies; attracts hummingbirds; ground cover

Availability: somewhat available, may have to go out of the region to find the plant

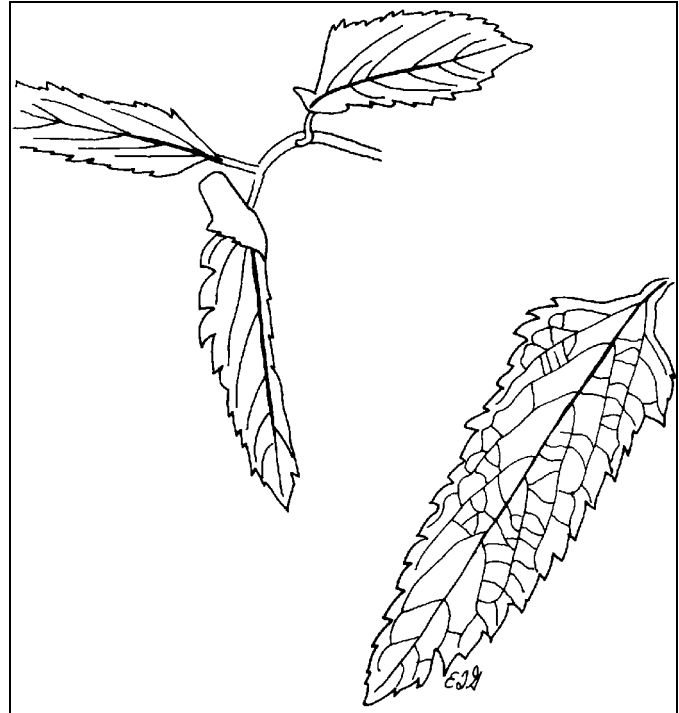


Figure 1. Bog Salvia.

Description

Height: 2 to 4 feet

Spread: 4 to 8 feet

Plant habit: spreading

Plant density: dense

Growth rate: fast

Texture: fine

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Figure 2. Shaded area represents potential planting range.

Foliage

- Leaf arrangement:** opposite/subopposite
- Leaf type:** simple
- Leaf margin:** dentate
- Leaf shape:** oblong
- Leaf venation:** bowed; brachidodrome
- Leaf type and persistence:** evergreen
- Leaf blade length:** 2 to 4 inches
- Leaf color:** green
- Fall color:** no fall color change
- Fall characteristic:** not showy

Flower

- Flower color:** blue
- Flower characteristic:** spring flowering; summer flowering

Fruit

- Fruit shape:** no fruit
- Fruit length:** no fruit
- Fruit cover:** no fruit
- Fruit color:** not applicable
- Fruit characteristic:** inconspicuous and not showy

Trunk and Branches

- Trunk/bark/branches:** not applicable
- Current year stem/twig color:** brown
- Current year stem/twig thickness:** thin

Culture

- Light requirement:** plant grows in full sun
- Soil tolerances:** acidic; sand; loam; clay; extended flooding
- Drought tolerance:** moderate
- Soil salt tolerances:** unknown
- Plant spacing:** 18 to 24 inches

Other

- Roots:** not applicable
- Winter interest:** no special winter interest
- Outstanding plant:** not particularly outstanding
- Invasive potential:** aggressive, spreading plant
- Pest resistance:** no serious pests are normally seen on the plant

Use and Management

The Bog Sage is an easy plant to grow, and it adapts to wet or dry conditions. It prefers an area in the landscape that receives full sun to partial shade. This perennial can be invasive, especially in wet areas.

Propagate the Bog Sage by division, cuttings, or seed.

Pests and Diseases

No pests or diseases are of major concern.