

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT CONTRIBUTES TO THE STRONG AROMA?

Russian Sage is in the mint family and features finely dissected, aromatic (when crushed), gray-green leaves on stiff, upright, square stems.

WHY HAS THE GROWTH BECOME LEGGY?

Fertile soil will boost leggy growth and will require support to prevent the plant from becoming untidy. Also, too much shade or too rich a soil, it may need staking, but in full sun it is quite woody and stands upright without assistance.

HOW MUCH SHOULD BE PRUNED BACK AND WHEN?

You should only prune it back in the spring and you want to cut it back nearly to the ground or basal shoots (approximately 6 inches above the soil) before growth begins in spring since the best flowering occurs on new growth.

ARE THEY DEER RESISTANT?

They're extremely deer resistant. They're garden proven performance has stood the test of being proficient deer resistant plants.

AWARDS?

It was awarded the Perennial Plant of the Year (PPA) in 1995 by the Perennial Plant Association. It is most known for its long blooming season, reliability and proven garden performance with star-like yellow blossoms from summer till autumn.

DO THEY LIKE A RICH FERTILE SOIL?

No. Plants need a lean well drained soil. Sandy or rocky soil is preferred. Death from "wet feet" is a common occurrence in heavy soils.

CAN THEY GROW IN A ROCKY TYPE SOIL?

These are excellent plants for rock gardens. They will do very well. The more rocky, sandy and porous the soil the better they perform.

FIRST THINGS FIRST...

When your plant arrives from Roberta's, remove from the shipping box immediately.

Keep bare roots inside packing material until ready to plant into ground or container. Put in a cool, protected area and plant as soon as possible. For extended storage time, place in refrigerator for up to 3 weeks.

When ready to plant, do the job as early in the day as possible to avoid extreme soil temperatures that prevent proper water uptake from the roots. Water them in well and whisper a few words of wisdom.

Thank you for your order!

Take your gardening experience to new heights by visiting Roberta's Unique Gardens in our brand shop on QVC.com. Our goal is to enhance your gardening enjoyment by providing you with top quality, leading edge perennials and annuals that are suitable for your garden and home with the best service imaginable.

Roberta's is a 4th generation family owned business and has been one of the leading commercial exhibitors at flower and garden shows for over 50 years in the U.S and abroad. We search the globe to find easy-to-grow plants that are unique in themselves or their variety making them nearly impossible to find elsewhere. Our passion and commitment continually asks the question, "What makes a better, unsurpassed, and more beautiful flower to behold?"

Working with growers and breeders from all over the world, Roberta's is able to bring you hard-to-find plants and new species that will be sweethearts for years to come. Our alliance with QVC since the late 1990's will continue to transform your garden into the garden of your dreams. "Partnering with QVC, we share a common vision that puts the customer at the top of the list!"

Thank you for bringing us into your home,
Eric, Kevin, and Koort Wallien



1-800-428-9726

Monday—Friday 8:30 am—4:30 pm EST

Thank you

For bringing us into your home

www.robertasinc.com

ROBERTA'S GARDENS
PLANTING AND GROWING GUIDE



Russian Sage
(Perovskia atriplicifolia)

QUICK REFERENCE PLANTING GUIDE

LIGHT/SUN EXPOSURE:	Full Sun
USDA HARDINESS ZONES:	4 to 9
PLANTING DISTANCE:	48-52 inches
MATURE HEIGHT/SPREAD:	48-52 inches tall and wide
BLOOM TIME:	Summer to Fall
PLANTING INSTRUCTIONS:	Remove plastic bag and/or sleeve from around bare-roots. Transplant into the garden as soon as the evening temperatures stay above 40F. Dig holes twice the width of the root ball and about 5 to 6 inches deep.

(soil preparation, depth, which end is up, etc.)

PLANTING GUIDE

1
STEP

Keep inside packing material until ready to plant into ground or container. Put in a cool, protected area and plant as soon as possible. For extended storage time, place in refrigerator for up to 3 weeks.

2
STEP

Transplant into the garden as soon as evening temperatures stay above 40F. Your hole should be deep enough to accommodate the roots and only 1 to 2 inches more covering the top. Fill in the hole with soil and pack firmly. Water thoroughly.

3
STEP

Rather than in the garden you may re-pot into large containers. Re pot the plants into at least 12 inch pots separately or together inside one larger container.

4
STEP

Planted now they will produce aromatic flowers from summer till fall.

CONTINUING CARE

SHELF LIFE

Plant into garden or larger pots and place outside immediately after the night temperatures stay above 40 degrees.

PLANT PREPARATION

Remove plastic bag and sleeve from around bare-roots. Discard any packing material clinging to the leaves or soil. Pull away any yellow or brown leaves that may have occurred during transit. If you can not plant it into garden or larger pot within a few days, make sure it stays well watered.

SOIL

It prefers relatively poor, well-drained soil. Avoid fertile soil as it causes leggy growth. It likes a rocky soil and avoid overwatering.

POTTED PLANTS

Rather than in the garden you may re-pot into large containers. Repot the plants into at least 12 inch pots separately or together inside one larger container.

GARDEN PREPARATION

They do best in full sun, and if anything less it may require staking. It's a real heat lover- being heat and drought tolerant.

PLANTING DISTANCE

If planted in the garden space 48-52 inches apart.

PLANTING HEIGHT AND WIDTH

These grow about 48-52 inches tall and wide.

WATER

Water upon planting and just average watering in summer. Water regularly during the first growing season to establish a deep, extensive root system. Avoid too moist soil or wet feet.

FERTILIZER

They respond to feeding with a high bloom fertilizer like Roberta's Flower Magic plant food (M7503). Once a month is sufficient. Also Roberta's Micro-nutrient Spray and Flourish (M26045) is a bonus bonus for your plants. Once a month is sufficient.

TEMPERATURE ZONES 3 to 8

When nights stay above 40 degrees, place your plants outside and leave them there. They can withstand winter temperatures to minus 30F.

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE

LIGHTING

In the summer growing season, full sun is the absolute best.

BLOOMING

Under correct conditions, blooming appears throughout the summer into fall, about 2 to 3 months long.

PRUNING

To obtain fuller plants, pinch back by 1/2 when they reach 12 inches.

WINTER DORMANCY

They feature upright, grayish white stems, but they are deciduous. They're pale gray stems provide a strong vertical element, and are especially appealing in the winter time when they are leafless. Do not cut back Russian Sage in the fall. However, it should be cut back almost to the ground (to basal shoots-approximately 6 inches above the ground) before growth begins in spring since the best flowering occurs on new growth.

PROPAGATION

They can be subdivided in late autumn or early spring after 4-6 years. Offsets from side of clump can be dug and transplanted.



Shimmering silver foliage



Stunning purple/blue blossoms