

Botanical Name: Lepechinia fragrans

Common Name: Pitcher sage, Fragrant pitchersage

Type of Plant: dicot: perennial Family Labiatae

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape Loosely constructed, upright plant that borders between
an herbaceous perennial and a woody shrub; produces purple trumpet-like flowers

Height 2 to 6 ft. Spread 2 to 6 ft. Growth Rate moderate

Environment:

Exposure outdoors full sun to shade

Soil any soil with good drainage

Hardiness hardy; Zones 12-24

Morphology:

Leaves deltoid to lanceolate, spring foliage may be 6" long but

leaves produced in summer are much smaller, to 2" long; foliage is fuzzy gray green

Flowers bell-shaped to tubular, pink to purple, to 1-1/2" long, 1"
across; generally borne on loose spikes in spring

Fruit 1/4" diameter berry; begins white and turns blue

Propagation: seed, stem cuttings

Usage: good filler or loose background plant; appreciated for
foxglove-like flowers and grayish foliage, which has a fruity scent

Landscape Care:

Watering drought tolerant once established; tolerates occasional
watering

Fertilizing none required

Pruning pinch regularly to encourage denser form

Pests/Diseases root rot where drainage is poor

Other short-lived in cultivation; 'El Tigre' has darker flowers

Origin: southern coastal California