

Botanical Name: Salvia mellifera 'Terra Seca'

Common Name: Black Sage, Green Sage

Type of Plant: dicot: subshrub Character evergreen

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape a low-growing, sprawling plant, with thin arching and spreading stems forming a loose cushiony mound

Height 1' - 2' Spread 5' - 8' Growth Rate moderate-rapid

Environment:

Exposure outdoors prefers full sun at all locations except hot inland sites, where it benefits from partial shade

Soil tolerates most, including clay

Hardiness hardy (Zones 8-24): thrives in warm coastal valley/foothill locations

Morphology:

Leaves pinnate, opposite (on squarish stems), oval-elliptic or oblong; pungent, fairly shiny, green above, paler beneath, 1"-2" long, with somewhat crenate margins, blades somewhat glandular

Flowers pale blue-white, in round clusters on terminal spikes;

March - May

Fruit tiny nutlets

Propagation: softwood or semi-hardwood cuttings

Usage: a very drought-tolerant low filler or large-scale ground-cover for sunny slopes, good for dry locations in mostly frost-free coastal areas; good for 'quick effects' in the garden, and for erosion control on steep slopes

Landscape Care:

Watering little required except at hot inland sites, where periodic deep-soak irrigation is needed (14-21 days)

Fertilizing none required

Pruning head back after blooming to control width if needed; little is required

Pests/Diseases root fungus diseases in badly-draining sites

Special Conditions rather short-lived if over-watered  
cultivar of S. mellifera, native to central & southern California coastal

Origin: CA. foothills Family: Lamiaceae