

# SHEL MERDINE

## SECOND NATURE



### **Filigran Russian Sage** *Perovskia 'Filigran'*

Plant Height: 3 feet

Flower Height: 5 feet

Spread: 3 feet

Spacing: 30 inches

Sunlight: ☉

Hardiness Zone: 4a

#### **Description:**

Finely cut silver foliage distinguishes this variety; sturdy upright stems bearing spires of steel blue flowers with a hint of lavender; tolerates humidity and dryness and needs to be well drained to winter well

#### **Ornamental Features**

Filigran Russian Sage features delicate spikes of steel blue flowers with violet overtones rising above the foliage from mid summer to mid fall. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its attractive tiny fragrant narrow leaves remain silver in colour throughout the season.

#### **Landscape Attributes**

Filigran Russian Sage is an herbaceous perennial with an upright spreading habit of growth. It brings an extremely fine and delicate texture to the garden composition and should be used to full effect.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant, and is best cut back to the ground in late winter before active growth resumes. It is a good choice for attracting butterflies to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Filigran Russian Sage is recommended for the following landscape applications;



*Filigran Russian Sage flowers*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



*Filigran Russian Sage in bloom*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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- Mass Planting
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting

### **Planting & Growing**

Filigran Russian Sage will grow to be about 3 feet tall at maturity extending to 5 feet tall with the flowers, with a spread of 3 feet. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 30 inches apart. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 10 years. As an herbaceous perennial, this plant will usually die back to the crown each winter, and will regrow from the base each spring. Be careful not to disturb the crown in late winter when it may not be readily seen!

This plant should only be grown in full sunlight. It prefers dry to average moisture levels with very well-drained soil, and will often die in standing water. It is considered to be drought-tolerant, and thus makes an ideal choice for a low-water garden or xeriscape application. It is not particular as to soil type, but has a definite preference for alkaline soils. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid.

Filigran Russian Sage is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. With its upright habit of growth, it is best suited for use as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the center of the pot, surrounded by smaller plants and those that spill over the edges. It is even sizeable enough that it can be grown alone in a suitable container. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden. Be aware that in our climate, most plants cannot be expected to survive the winter if left in containers outdoors, and this plant is no exception. Contact our experts for more information on how to protect it over the winter months.