

Salvia Mystic Spires Blue

True blue flower spikes all season long
Contrasting dark green leaves
Naturally compact and well branched
Excellent garden performance
Ideal for 2 litre pots and patio containers
Height 45-60cm, spread 30-60cm

Media

- A pH of 5.8 to 6.2 is optimum.
- Mystic Spires Blue prefers a well-drained soil with as much air space as is practical.

Temperature

Day: 21 – 26°C

Night: 17 – 19°C

Light

- Mystic Spires Blue prefers high light intensity.
- Plants will stretch at light intensities and branching will be reduced.

Watering

- Keep growing media moderately moist. Allow the media to dry between watering's.
- If the media stays too wet, plants will stretch.

Fertiliser

- Mystic Spires Blue has a moderate fertiliser requirement.
- Apply a balanced NPK fert at every watering from 10 - 14 days after potting

Pinching

- The Ball 66 paper plug is already pinched once.
- A pinch can be performed only when 4 mature leaves can be left on the stem after the terminal is removed to ensure adequate breaks after a pinch.
- A single pinch is recommended when growing in an 11 – 13cm pot. Growers may choose to pinch plants in larger, 15 – 17cm pot a second time to enhance branching.

Controlling growth

- Maintain recommended temperatures and light levels to avoid stretch.
- Wet media will cause stretching and produce weak growth.
- Mystic Spires Blue is responsive to Daminozide, Depending on climate and pot size, 2 or 3 applications.

Common problems

Insects: Thrips, Aphids, Whitefly Sciarid fly.

Diseases: *Botrytis*, *Pythium*, *Rhizoctonia*

All Salvia Mystic Spires Blue cuttings are derived from culture and virus-indexed stock.

Crop time

6 – 8 weeks in 12 – 13cm pots from a Ball 66 paper plug. About 1 week more on larger containers. This time will increase if a second pinch is given.

Problems	Causes
Plant collapse	Stem canker (<i>Phoma</i>) Plants grown in saturated media for extended periods of time (<i>Pythium</i>)
Excessive vegetative growth and lack of flowers	Excessive ammonia nitrogen in fertiliser Low light and over watering; saturated media
Poor branching and thin plants	Low fertilisation during early stages of growth; low light
Yellowing of foliage	Excessive moisture in soil Low micro nutrients

Ball Colegrave cultural information is issued as a guide to growers, based on our own trials experience. It is not intended as a blueprint for growing. Any chemicals referred to should be used only in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.