Lavender

Lavandula Angustifolia cultivars(zone5)

Ashdown Forest-(20-24") Small plant with bushy habit and dense mid-green foliage. Bright violet-blue flowers on short stems, heavy bloomer. Our original plant was brought to us from England by Bob Lilly.

Blue River-(18-20") Seed strain introduced in Holland in the 1990's. Compact, uniform and floriferous with intense blue flower spikes.

Coconut Ice-(20") Habit is small and bushy with semi-open to dense gray-green foliage. Spikes are medium to long, flowers are mid pink/white.

Dwarf Blue-(12-15") Also known as Baby Blue, Blue Dwarf, Nana) A compact grower with dense, sometimes untidy growth. Green-gray foliage with dark lavender flowers; fragrant.

Dwarf White-(12-16") Also known as Nana Alba. A small, bushy plant; dense gray-green foliage. Covered with small white flowers. When in bloom, this lavender really stands out; it is so pretty and white.

Fiona English(20-24") From New Zealand. This lavender has very dark purple flowers on 8-10" stems. Compact and bushy; very fragrant.

Folgate-(24-30") Bushy plant, with a slightly sprawling habit with mid green foliage. Flowers are violet-blue.

Grappenhall (36-48") Very large plant used for hedges. Long flower spikes of dark aster-violet; fragrant

Graves-(24-36") American cultivar with compact gray foliage. Tight flower spikes of lavender blue; long bloomer.

Hidcote-(18-24") Medium bushy plant with dark purple flowers. Good for edging and hedges, remains to be a very popular lavender.

Hidcote Pink-(18-20") Medium plant with dense gray-green foliage. Short stems produce pretty pink flowers, which fade quickly to pale pink

Hidcote Superior-(18-24") Seed grown strain introduced by Jelitto Seeds Ltd of Germany in 2002. It is said to be a superior seed-selection with improved height, spread and color in comparison to other seed grown selection.

Imperial Gem (12-18") Smaller and better shaped than Hidcote. Violet flowers on compact, bushy plant.

Jean Davis-(24-30") Also known as Rosea, Munstead Pink, English Pink and Nana Pink. Green foliage, compact growth habit and pale pink flowers. This is my favorite pink lavender.

Lavenite Petite-(15-20") Habit is small & bushy with dense mid-green foliage. Bright violet blooms.

Little Lottie (15-20") Low, dome shaped plant with mauve-pink flowers.

Maillette-(18-24") Medium plant, semi-open, mid green foliage. Violet-blue flowers, very fragrant. Used commercially for oil production.

Martha Roderick-(12-18") Bushy habit, dense gray foliage. Flowers are bright violet-blue.

Melissa-(18-20") Medium plant, upright bushy habit and dense gray-green foliage. Flowers are pink and white. This plant was introduced by Van Hevelingen Herb Nursery of Newberg, OR.

Middachten (18-20") Compact, green foliage. Rich, dark blue flowers.

Munstead-(24-30") Medium plant with dense mid green foliage. Flowers are dark lavender-violet. One of the most popular varieties.

Purple Bouquet-(24") A new introduction by Sunshine Enterprises, Tenino, WA. Produces long 15" stems, with flowers 4-6" long of deep, dark purple. When the buds are just forming the stems are purple. If you are familiar with Folgate, picture a dark purple version. Ideal for drying. Nicely fragrant.

Royal Purple-(18-20") Compact grower with dark purple, fragrant flowers. An introduction from Norfolk Lavender, Ltd in England.

Royal Velvet-(20-24") A compact gower, deep purple flower heads on 12-14" stems. Very much in demand for dried flower bunches. Introduced by Van Hevelingen Herb Nursery from seed collected on a trip to England.

Skylark-(18-20") Compact plant producing an abundance of stout, square stems topped with violet-blue flowers. Very attractive plant.

Twickle Purple-(18-20") Semi-tall plant with open, mid green foliage. Bright lavender-blue flowers. Good for sachets.

Victorian Amethyst-(20-24") Compact silvery shrub with light amethystpurple flowers; very fragrant.

Lavandula x intermedia cultivars (lavandins)(zone5)

Alba (24-36") Also known as White Spike, White Dutch, White Hedge, Tall White, Hidcote White. Large plant with a growth habit similar to Provence, producing long stems of white flowers (not as white as Edelweiss).

Dutch (36-48") Large, mounding plant with beautiful gray green foliage.

Producing long, light lavender flower spikes. This plant makes a very nice plant in a container as well as the garden. Nice winter foliage color.

Edelweiss (24-30") Also sold as Cathy Blanc, Caty Blanc, White Grosso. Growth habit is much like Grosso, dense, gray-green foliage, with clear white flowers. When planted in mass the white flowers are outstanding. A much cleaner, brighter white than Lavandula Alba and a neater, more compact plant.

Fragrant Memories (24'30") Large plant for hedging. Long, tapered blooms are dark lavender-violet.

Fred Boutin(18-20") Compact bush with violet flower spikes. Attractive winter foliage of silvery gray. Late bloomer, good in hedges.

Grosso(20-24") Compact plant, tight silvery foliage. Produces long stems of fat, dark violet flower spikes. Very popular plant for both oil production and dried flowers. Very popular plant for the home garden and the commercial lavender grower.

Hidcote Giant(20-24")Producing short, very fat flower heads of dark violet. This is an excellent selection for drying. There is some question as the true Hidcote Giant. We have selected this variety as it was the most asked for for it's superior flower. This selection is not a good oil producer.

Provence (24-36") Fast growing, nice landscape plant. This is a very easy lavender to grow. Long stems of fragrant mauve flowers. A very popular variety for the landscape.

Silver Edge(18-20") Bushy plant, attractive variegated foliage of gray-green, with creamy margins. Flowers are blue-violet. Living in the Pacific Northwest, we have discovered that this plant likes it warm and dry. Nice planted in mass as a foliage contrast plant.

Lavandula lanata x lavadula angustifolia cultivars(zone6)

Ana Luisa(20-24") A cousin to 'Silver Frost', selected by VanHelvelingesn's of Newburg, OR. Large plant with silvery gray foliage and large, dark purple flowers. Very showy and a favorite of ours.

Richard Gray (12-15") Small, dense plant with dark violet flowers on 12" stems. This lavender is ideal for small areas or rock gardens. We have a 12' half circle of this lavender at one end of a mound in the middle of our driveway.

Sawyers(18-20") Spherical habit with dense foliage. Large dark purple flowers contrast nicely with woolly leaves. Nice planted in mass.

Silver Frost (12-15") Bushy habit of medium height with white woolly foliage, covered with sprays of large, dark purple flowers. This is another introduction from Van Hevelingen's. We have had this selection in our garden for many years, it is a very pretty plant in bloom or not.

Lavandula stoechas cultivars(zone8)

Atlas (18-24") Bushy plant with gray green foliage. Very large, showy pinecone shaped purple flowers. Very attractive display plant.

Blue Star (18-24") Large, bushy plant covered with very dark purple flowers. We have found this to be rather hardy and easy to grow.

Curly Top (18-20") Upright, bushy plant with gray green foliage. The curled ears of this plant makes it unique and different. Flowers are deep violet purple.

Devonshire (8-12") Bushy compact plant with green foliage. Heavy bloomer of dark purple flowers. This is a great selection for containers and small garden spots.

Devonshire White-Same as above, but with white flowers.

Fat Head (18-20") Bushy plant with masses of long lasting, fat, dark purple flowers which fade with age.

James Compton (18-24"/pedunculate) Very upright, bushy plant with narrow foliage. Covered with small red-purple flowers with long 'ears'. When in bloom this plant looks like it is covered with hundreds of butterflies. It is also known as 'Butterfly' and 'Fairy Wings'. It is noted that there is little to no difference between this plant and a cultivar known as 'Pappilon'.

Kew Red (12-18") Slightly floppy growth habit, gray green foliage set off by cerise colored, pinecone shaped flowers. The color of this plant will stop you in your tracks.

Otto Quast(18-20") Semi-tall plant with dense gray green foliage. Masses of purple pinecone shaped flowers cover this plant for a long blooming time. A very popular selection.

Purple Flame (18-20") Bright violet flowers with a red line through the center of each bract. The bracts on this lavender are long and narrow. Nice, new addition.

Willowvale (18-24") Bushy plant with gray green foliage and plump purple flowers, displaying long ears on top. This selection of Spanish lavender is a very showy plant in the garden or in a container. One of my favorites, the flowers are a little more blue violet.

Wings of Night 15-18") This selection was brought to us several years ago by Bob Lilly, and it has been in our garden since. It is smaller and more compact than Otto Quast with darker flowers.

Miscellaneous lavandula cultivars(zone 8)

Buchii pinnata- Fast growing, tender variety with very lacy leaves and lavender-blue flowers. When planted in spring, after all danger of frost, this plant will grow quickly to make a great display of flowers, blooming until frost arrives again.

Dusky Maiden French-This is suppose to be hardy, but we don't know how hardy. But no matter of it's hardiness, we really like this lavender. The foliage is very dainty and lacy in appearance, with nice lavender flowers.

French Gray-A tender variety, best grown as an annual. Toothed gray foliage with fat lavender flowers. Can be grown indoors.

French Green-Same as above, with green foliage.

Goodwin Creek-Bushy plants with very woolly, gray-green foliage and large violet flowers. Hardy to 10 degrees. A great container plant, will bloom for nine months out of the year in the right conditions.

Reference Books:

Lavender the growers guide by Virginia McNaughton
The Genus Lavandula by Tim Upson & Susyn Andrews
The Big Book of Herbs by Arthur Tucker & Thomas DeBaggio