## Cultural information

Cultural information is issued as a guide to growers based on our own trial 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 and local regulations.

Text is subject to typing or printing errors.

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### Salvia splendens Red Alert

**Life cycle**  
Annual

**Family/origin**  
Lamiaceae / Brasil

**Popular uses**  
Outdoor containers, pots and packs, suitable for landscape beds and garden, hanging baskets

**Mature plant height**  
30-35 cm (12-14”)

**Mature plant width**  
30-35 cm (12-14”)

**Pot size**  
Packs, 10-15 cm (4-6”) pots

**Plants per pot**  
1  
3 per 15 cm (6”) and larger

**Sun exposure**  
Sun partial shade

**Water requirements**  
Reduced, avoid wet conditions

**Flowering time**  
Entire growing season  
Frost tender

**Media**  
A well-drained, porous media is best to prevent over watering  
**pH** 6.0-6.2  
**EC** 0.7-1.5 (100-175 ppm)

**Growing temperature**  
Start at 18-20°C (64-68°F)  
Lower the temperature after root at 15-18°C (59-64°F)  
Avoid wet conditions at night

**Light**  
Salvia prefers high light conditions

**Fertilizer needs**  
Balanced N:P:K fertiliser as needed recommended, use calcium based fertilizers  
**EC** 1.8-2.2 (50-200 ppm)

**Crop time**  
10-12 weeks

**Hardiness zone**  
N/A

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### Growth regulators

Salvia is responsive to Daminozide (B-Nine), A-rest, Paclobutrazol (Bonzi) and/or Sumagic treatments

### Common Diseases

Alternaria Leaf Spot, Powdery mildew, Rust and Corynespora leaf spot.

### Common Pests

Thrips, Aphids, Whitefly and Spider mites

### Pinching

No need
## Salvia splendens Red Alert

**Plug Production**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Seed forms</th>
<th>Raw</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Seed count</strong></td>
<td>250-300 sds/gr (7,000-8,500 sds/oz) <em>Varies by lot!</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Seeds cell</strong></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Vermiculite cover</strong></td>
<td>Light</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Stage 1: Germination
- **Moisture:** keep medium saturated
- **Growing medium temperature:** 22-24°C (70-75°F)
- **Fertilizer level EC:** 0.5-1.0 (50-75 ppm)
- **Light:** necessary for the germination process, provide 100-1,000 lux (10-100 fc) in the chamber

### Stage 2: Stem and cotyledon
- **Reduce moisture levels to obtain optimum root penetration and to prevent fungal diseases**
- **Prevent wet foliage after nightfall**
- **Temperature:** 18-20°C (65-68°F)
- **Fertilizer levels:** EC 0.7-1.2 (100-175 ppm)

### Stage 3: Growth and development
- **Moisture:** reduce moisture levels and allow medium to dry between watering
- **Do not allow plants to wilt**
- **Temperature:** 18-20°C (65-68°F)
- **Fertilization:** as stage 2
- **To prevent stretching alternate with potassium nitrate at EC 1.2-1.5 (100-175 ppm)**

### Stage 4: Ready for transplanting
- **Moisture:** reduce moisture levels and allow medium to dry slightly between watering but do not allow plants to wilt
- **Temperature:** 15-18°C (60-65°F)
- **Fertilizers:** see stage 3
- **It is important not to stress plugs to prevent premature flower bud formation**

**Plug crop time:** 4-5 weeks

**Approximate finish time:** 5-7 weeks

**Special tips:**
- Salvia prefers high light conditions. Low light levels can induce stretching
- Downward cupping and yellowing of leaves can indicate too cool a temperature or too high EC level in the compost
- Yellowing on mature leaves is often associated with a lack of magnesium