

# Salvia farinacea 'Victoria White' 'Victoria White' Sage<sup>1</sup>

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### Introduction

This cultivar of blue salvia, native to the southwestern United States, adds a soft white color to any sunny land-scape. Plants grow to about 2 feet tall and will spread with a tight head to about 2 feet. Flower spikes are held well above the dense, grey/green foliage, displaying the striking white color nicely. Plants are very uniform, providing a nice, solid structure to any landscape planting.



Figure 1. Full Form - Salvia farinacea 'Victoria White': 'Victoria White' Sage

Credits: Edward F. Gilman, UF/IFAS



Figure 2. Leaf and Flower - *Salvia farinacea* 'Victoria White': 'Victoria White' Sage

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### **General Information**

Scientific name: Salvia farinacea 'Victoria White'

Pronunciation: SAL-vee-uh fair-rin-NAY-see-uh

**Common name(s):** 'Victoria White' sage, 'Victoria White' salvia

Family: Labiatae

**Plant type:** perennial; herbaceous

**USDA hardiness zones:** 9 through 11 (Figure 3)

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- 2. Edward F. Gilman, professor emeritus, Department of Environmental Horticulture; Teresa Howe, former coordinator, research programs and services, UF/IFAS Gulf Coast Research and Education Center; Ryan W. Klein, assistant professor, arboriculture, and Gail Hansen, professor, sustainable landscape design, Department of Environmental Horticulture; UF/IFAS Extension, Gainesville, FL 32611.

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Planting month for zone 9: Mar; Sep; Nov; Dec

Planting month for zone 10 and 11: Feb; Mar; Oct; Nov

Origin: native to North America

**Invasive potential:** not known to be invasive

Uses: border; cut flowers; attracts butterflies; attracts

hummingbirds

**Availability:** generally available in many areas within its

hardiness range



Figure 3. Shaded area represents potential planting range.

## **Description**

Height: 2 to 3 feet

**Spread:** 1 to 3 feet

Plant habit: upright

Plant density: moderate

Growth rate: fast

Texture: medium

## **Foliage**

Leaf arrangement: whorled

**Leaf type:** simple

Leaf margin: serrate

Leaf shape: ovate

Leaf venation: not applicable

Leaf type and persistence: semi-evergreen

Leaf blade length: 2 to 4 inches

Leaf color: green

Fall color: not applicable

Fall characteristic: not applicable

#### **Flower**

Flower color: white

Flower characteristic: summer flowering; fall flowering

#### Fruit

Fruit shape: no fruit

Fruit length: no fruit

Fruit cover: no fruit

Fruit color: not applicable

Fruit characteristic: inconspicuous and not showy

#### **Trunk and Branches**

Trunk/bark/branches: not applicable

Current year stem/twig color: green

Current year stem/twig thickness: thin

#### **Culture**

**Light requirement:** plant grows in full sun

Soil tolerances: acidic; sand; loam; clay

**Drought tolerance:** moderate

Soil salt tolerances: unknown

**Plant spacing:** 6 to 12 inches

#### Other

Roots: not applicable

Winter interest: not applicable

Outstanding plant: not particularly outstanding

**Pest resistance:** long-term health usually not affected by pests

## **Use and Management**

Space plants about 12 inches apart to quickly form a solid mass of purple color. Set a mass planting of salvia in front of a dark green background of foliage from a dense shrub for maximum effect. Salvia also looks nice planted in a perennial border mixed with other perennials and grasses. It is also suited for planting in a container and displaying on a deck or patio.

#### **Pests and Diseases**

Aphids suck plant juices and may coat the leaves with sticky honeydew.

Powdery mildew may coat the leaves with a white powdery growth.