

# *Salvia uliginosa* Bog Sage, Bog Salvia<sup>1</sup>

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## Introduction

Bog sage is an upright to spreading perennial that eventually attains a height of 3 to 4 feet. The coarse-textured leaves are light green to dark green in color depending on soil conditions and fertilization practices. Bog sage blooms throughout the spring and summer with electric blue flowers. This herbaceous perennial may be used as a ground cover or background plant. It presents a nice, massed display and is exceptionally beautiful when planted along with ornamental grasses.



Figure 1. Full Form - *Salvia uliginosa*: Bog Sage, Bog Salvia  
Credits: Edward F. Gilman, UF/IFAS



Figure 2. Leaf - *Salvia uliginosa*: Bog Sage, Bog Salvia  
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## General Information

**Scientific name:** *Salvia uliginosa*

**Pronunciation:** SAL-vee-uh yoo-lidge-jin-NOE-suh

**Common name(s):** bog sage, bog salvia

**Family:** *Labiatae*

**Plant type:** herbaceous; ground cover

**USDA hardiness zones:** 8 through 10A (Figure 3)

**Planting month for zone 8:** year-round

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**Planting month for zone 9:** year-round

**Planting month for zone 10:** year-round

**Origin:** not native to North America

**Invasive potential:** aggressive, spreading plant

**Uses:** border; cut flowers; attracts butterflies; attracts hummingbirds; ground cover

**Availability:** somewhat available, may have to go out of the region to find the plant



Figure 3. Shaded area represents potential planting range.

## Description

**Height:** 2 to 4 feet

**Spread:** 4 to 8 feet

**Plant habit:** spreading

**Plant density:** dense

**Growth rate:** fast

**Texture:** fine

## Foliage

**Leaf arrangement:** opposite/subopposite

**Leaf type:** simple

**Leaf margin:** dentate

**Leaf shape:** oblong

**Leaf venation:** bowed; brachidodrome

**Leaf type and persistence:** evergreen

**Leaf blade length:** 2 to 4 inches

**Leaf color:** green

**Fall color:** no fall color change

**Fall characteristic:** not showy

## Flower

**Flower color:** blue

**Flower characteristic:** spring flowering; summer 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:** brown

**Current year stem/twig thickness:** thin

## Culture

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

**Soil tolerances:** acidic; sand; loam; clay; extended flooding

**Drought tolerance:** moderate

**Soil salt tolerances:** unknown

**Plant spacing:** 18 to 24 inches

## Other

**Roots:** not applicable

**Winter interest:** no special winter interest

**Outstanding plant:** not particularly outstanding

**Pest resistance:** no serious pests are normally seen on the plant

## Use and Management

The bog sage is an easy plant to grow, and it adapts to wet or dry conditions. It prefers an area in the landscape that receives full sun to partial shade. This perennial can be invasive, especially in wet areas.

Propagate the bog sage by division, cuttings, or seed.

## Pests and Diseases

No pests or diseases are of major concern.