



ARIZONA-SONORA  
DESERT  
MUSEUM

## ARIZONA-SONORA DESERT MUSEUM PLANT CARE INFORMATION

### Autumn Sage *Salvia greggii*

**DESCRIPTION:** This small, evergreen shrub grows naturally in rocky soils in central, west and south Texas, and Mexico. It is valued for its adaptability to garden soils and its very long blooming season. Clones have varying growth habits from very upright to sprawling. In the spring and fall Autumn Sage blooms profusely with clusters of small flowers. Horticultural selection has brought us many flower colors, including white, pale yellow, orange, salmon, peach, fuchsia, purple, red-violet, burgundy. These blooms attract hummingbirds and butterflies. The small, glossy, dark green leaves of this plant make it a nice addition to the oasis zone of a garden. A variety can be found with white variegation of leaves. There are also numerous named hybrids with *Salvia microphylla* and other species, which are often referred to as "*Salvia greggii* types". 'Ruby Slippers' Autumn Sage produces a profusion of large, bright flowers, has a compact growth habit, and outstanding summer heat tolerance.

**RECOMMENDED USE:** A beautiful source of color in any garden. Great for attracting wildlife. Can be kept in a large patio container.

#### CULTURE:



**Hardiness:** It is hardy to 0° F



**Sun tolerance:** Light shade to morning full sun with afternoon shade.



**Watering and feeding:** Moderate water to establish. Can be kept on low water regime, but blooms better with regular irrigation. Nitrogen fertilization helps to carry plants through the summer heat.



**Soil requirements:** Most soils are adequate.



**Pruning:** In a garden setting, prune back to 4 inches in late winter and again by one half in August to maintain a tidy shape, or allow to grow and spread or sprawl for a more natural appearance, with occasional pruning of old wood. Pruning off spent flower spikes may encourage additional flowering.