

Lavandula Mini Blue

(*Lavandula angustifolia*)

Germination

Approximate seed count (tuned):
Ellagance Purple: 800-1200 Sds/gr.
Ellagance Sky, Snow, Ice: 700-800 Sds/gr.
Lavance: 1000-1300 Sds/gr.
For seeds/ounce: 1 gram = 0,035 ounce

Key Flowering Facts

- First year-flowering perennials to USDA Hardiness Zone 5 to 9.
- Photoperiod response:
- Ellagance Purple is a facultative long day plant.
- Ellagance Sky, Snow and Ice and Lavance are obligated long day plants.
- Flower timing for outdoor productions:
 - Ellagance series:
 - Sown mid February as Spring production will flower naturally in middle to late June.
 - Sown from mid June to late July for overwinter production; will flower late May to early June of the following year.
 - Lavance:
 - Sown mid February to April as Spring production will flower naturally late June to August.
 - Sown from mid June to late July for overwinter production will flower early to middle June of the following year.
 - Mini Blue Lavandula:
 - Prefer overwintered production.
 - Sown from mid June to late July for overwinter production; will flower late May to early June of the following year.

Media

Use a well-drained, disease-free, media with a pH of 5.5 to 6.5 and a medium initial nutrient charge (EC 0.7–1.2 mmhos/cm).

Sowing

Sow 4 seeds per cell in a 288 cell tray, 6 seeds per cell in a 180 cell tray or 8 seeds per cell in a 84 cell tray. Cover seed lightly with vermiculite. Spray with fungicide against Alternaria/Phoma.

Stage 1 – Germination takes 4-5 days.

Soil temperature: 65 to 68°F (18 to 20°C)

Light: Not required but beneficial.

Moisture: Keep soil medium moist to moist (level 3-4) in Stage 1.

Humidity: Maintain 95-98% relative humidity (RH) until radicles emerge.

Plug Production

Stage 2

Soil temperature: 65 to 68°F (18 to 20°C)

Light: Up to 2,500 f.c. (26,900 Lux)

Moisture: Maintain the moisture level constantly medium moist to medium wet (level 3-4), to allow the roots to penetrate into the media.

Fertilizer: Apply fertilizer at rate 1 (less than 100 ppm Nitrate/0.2 – 0.5 mmhos/cm EC) from nitrate-form fertilizers.

Stage 3

Soil temperature: 59 to 63°F (15 to 17°C)

Light: Up to 2,500 f.c. (26,900 Lux)

Moisture: Reduce media moisture slightly towards medium dry to medium moist (level 2-3). Avoid both excessive watering and drought.

Fertilizer: Apply fertilizer to rate 2-3 (140 to 225 ppm N/1.0 to 1.5 mmhos/cm EC). Maintain medium pH of 5.8 to 6.5

Growth Regulators: Lavandula is responsive to B-Nine/Alar (daminozide) 2,000 ppm (2.5 g/l 85% formulation or 3.0 g/l of 64% formulation). Depending on weather, a weekly spray is advised starting approximately 2 to 2½ weeks after sowing with a maximum of 3 to 4 times.

Note: Ellagance Purple is for cool/early season productions and Lavance Purple is scheduled for middle to late season (warmer) productions. Plant development will vary between Ellagance and Lavance and therefore PGR treatments need to be watched carefully before applied.

Stage 4

Soil temperature: 59 to 63°F (15 to 17°C)

Light: Up to 5,000 f.c. (53,800 Lux) if temperature can be controlled.

Moisture: Same as Stage 3.

Fertilizer: Same as Stage 3.

Growing On to Finish

Container Size

4 to 5-in. (10.5 - 13-cm) square/quart pots: 1 plug per pot

1 to 1½ gallon (17 to 23-cm pots): 3 plugs per pot

Media

Use a well-drained, disease-free media (with coarse or bark parts) with a pH of 5.8 to 6.5 and a medium initial nutrient charge (EC 1.0 mmhos/cm).

Nitrate schedule from start to finish:

Start production stage N = 1.0 – 1.2

Final production stage N = 1.4 – 1.5

Temperature

Ellagance series

Nights: 54 to 60°F (12 to 16°C)

Days: 60 to 72°F (16 to 22°C)

Lavance

Nights: 60 to 65°F (16 to 18°C)

Days: 60 to 72°F (16 to 22°C)

Note: Ellagance Purple is for cool/early season productions and Lavance Purple is scheduled for middle to late season (warmer) productions. Lavance requires higher minimum temperature (58-61°F/14-16°C) to start growth.

Light

As high as possible while maintaining controlled moderate temperatures.

Photoperiod

- Ellagance Pink and Purple are facultative long day

plants (Long Day Beneficial) which will flower under all day length conditions but will flower faster under long day conditions.

- Ellagance Sky, Snow and Ice, Lavance and Mini Blue are obligated long day plants which have a critical day length of 13 to 14 hours.

Irrigation

Maintain medium moisture (level 3). Avoid both excessive watering and drought.

For overwinter production, keep plants on the dry side during winter period as overwatering could result in plant loss from root rot.

Fertilizer

Apply constant fertilizer at rate 1-2 (100 to 125 ppm N/0.7 to 1.2 mmhos/cm EC or 150 ppm as needed). Maintain the pH at 5.8 to 6.5 and EC 1.2 to 1.5 mmhos/cm.

For overwintering outside, add some extra Nitrate form fertilizer early spring (EC 1.5 – 1.6 mmhos/cm) when plants start to re-grow. rowth Regulators Lavandula is responsive to B-Nine/Alar (daminozide) 2,500 ppm (3.0 gr/l) but can also be mixed with Cycocel (chlormequat) 500-750 ppm (4.2 to 6.4 ml/l of 11.8% formulation or 0.7 to 1.0 ml/l of 75% formulation) for more compact plants. Lavandula is also responsive to Sumagic (uniconazole) 10 to 15 ppm (18 to 27 ml/l of 0.055% formulation) spray. PGR can be applied about 1 to 2 weeks after transplant. If necessary, repeat the applications as needed. In Northwestern Europe, Tilt (propiconazole) 0.3 ml/l weekly spray is also effective.

Note: Ellagance Pink and Purple are faster developing varieties than others. They may require more frequent PGR applications.

Pinching

Annual:

Pinching is not needed.

Overwintered:

To control shape, pinching or trimming is possible when plants have started to flower or stretch too much before winter, or after re-growth.

Note: It is not necessary to pinch or trim Mini Lavandula.

IMPORTANT: Don't pinch too low (minimum 10 cm from heart of the plant / soil level) or too late if pinch is done before winter to prevent plants from disease infection.



Spacing

Space plants before foliage is touching.

Crop Scheduling

Sow to transplant (288 cell plug): 5 to 6 weeks

Sow to transplant (180 cell plug): 7 to 8 weeks

Annual:

Transplant to flower:

- Ellagance Pink and Purple: 9 to 12 weeks
- Ellagance Sky: 10 to 13 weeks
- Ellagance Snow, Ice: 12 to 15 weeks
- Lavance Purple: 12 to 16 weeks

Under proper day length and temperature range from 60°F (16°C) to 68°F (20°C)

Total crop time:

- Ellagance Pink and Purple: 15 to 18 weeks
- Ellagance Sky: 16 to 19 weeks
- Ellagance Snow, Ice: 18 to 21 weeks
- Lavance Purple: 18 to 24 weeks

Under proper day length and temperature range.

Overwintering:

Transplant to flower: 36 to 42 weeks

Under proper day length and temperature range

Total crop time: 41 to 48 weeks

Under proper day length and temperature range

Ellagance Purple is 1-2 weeks earlier than Mini Blue and Lavance® Purple.

Note: Larger pots and/or more plugs per pot may cause a slightly longer crop time of approx. 1 to 2 weeks.

Spring Production: Sow mid February for natural flowering in late May to June.

Overwinter Production: Sow mid to end of July for natural flowering late May to early June of the following year.

Common Problems

Insect: Aphids, Leaf Nematodes, Mites

Disease: Pythium, Phytophthora, Bothrytis, Leafspot, Root rot

Garden and Landscape Information

- Lavandula is a first year-flowering perennial to USDA Hardiness Zone 5 to 9.
- Plant in full sun after all danger of frost has passed.
- Space plants at 12 to 16 in. (30 to 40 cm) apart in well-drained soil. For Lavance 10 to 12 in. (25 to 30 cm) is enough.

Note: Growers should use the information presented here as a starting point. Crop times will vary depending on the climate, location, time of year, and greenhouse environmental conditions. Chemical and PGR recommendations are only guidelines. It is the responsibility of the applicator to read and follow all the current label directions for the specific chemical being used in accordance with all regulations.

