



Caradonna Meadow Sage (*Salvia nemorosa*)

Sharon Bodie, UMN Extension Crow Wing County Master Gardener Volunteer

This is an upright woody-based perennial, with lavender to violet-blue flowers, dark purple stems and gray-green, fragrant, soft hairy leaves. Plants typically grow 18 - 30" tall and are clump forming. Flowers are good for cutting. Family name is Lamiaceae. Commonly known as: sage, meadow sage, salvia or woodland sage. As part of the mint family, the leaves are very aromatic and it is an excellent addition to a pollinator garden. Good for mass plantings, borders, rock gardens, cutting gardens, containers. Good low-maintenance perennial.

Type	Non-native herbaceous perennial
Hardiness Zone	3 - 8
Sun	Full sun (6 or more hours of direct sunlight per day)
Bloom Time	Early to late summer, June to September
Height	1' - 2'
Spread	1' - 2'
Tolerance	Drought tolerant once established, air pollution
Attracts	Hummingbirds, butterflies, bees
Additional Features	Deer and rabbit resistant

Soil and Site Recommendations

- Drainage: prefers moist, gravelly, or sandy soil with good drainage but tolerates dry, average, salty soil. Low maintenance.

Planting Recommendations

- When to plant: spring, summer or fall
- Depth of planting: plant so the crown of the plant rests just above the soil surface after watering in
- Spacing: 18 - 24 inches
- Division/transplant tips: divide rhizomes after flowering in mid-summer (July and August)

Maintenance

- Watering: weekly or more often in dry weather. Likes dry to medium wet soil.
- Fertilization: Use a balanced flower/rose fertilizer in spring and again in early June.



- Pinching/deadheading: remove spent flower spikes to promote growth of new flowers; cut back plants after flowering stops

Common Problems

Disease: some susceptibility to powdery mildew, leaf spot, and rust

Insects: may attract aphids, whiteflies, and scale.

Resources

<https://extension.umn.edu>

<http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org>

<https://ngb.org>

Questions or problems: What's wrong with my plant?

<https://apps.extension.umn.edu/garden/diagnose/plant/annualperennial/iris/rhizomes.html>

Additional resources used:

Visit us at crowwingmastergardeners.org, on Facebook @CWCMasterGardeners and on Instagram @cwcmastergardener.