HERB HERBERT FAVOURITE HERBS

Lavandula stoechas subsp. pendunculata

wonderful Lavender. Spanish Lavender, Lavandula stoechas subsp. pendunculata (Synonymous with Lavandula pendunculata subsp. pendunculata) has larger flower heads and bracts than the original species, Italian Lavender Lavandula stoechas. Lavenders are among the most popular plants for herb gardens, having subtle coloring and delightful fragrance. The hardier kinds make attractive hedges, while tender variants may be grown under cover. Lavender differs in habit, foliage and flower color, which range from typical lavenderblue to various shades of purple and white.

DESCRIPTION

Spanish Lavender is a late spring to summerflowering woody shrub with erect or ascending stems. Leaves linear. The light purple flowers appear on unbranched stalks generally in summer.







PARTS USED Flowers, oil

PROPERTIES

An aromatic, tonic herb with sweet scent. It relaxes spasms, benefits the digestion, stimulates the circulation and uterus and lowers fever. Widely used as an antiseptic and toiletry herb in ancient times by the Greeks, Romans and Arabs.

USES OF THE HERB

Culinary

Fresh flowers are crystallized or added to jams, ice creams and vinegar.

Medicinal

Internally for indigestion, depression, anxiety, tension headaches, migraine and bronchial complaints. Externally for burns, sunburn, rheumatism, muscular pain, cold sores and insect bites. Aromatic

Flowers are popular for use in potpourri and other crafts. The color holds well when dried.

Economic

Oil is used in perfumery and toiletries.

CULTIVATION

Well-drained soil in an open, sunny position. Trim hedges and cut specimen plants back in spring to encourage bushiness. Lavender becomes woody with age and is best replaced every 3-4 years.

HARVEST

Flowers are picked as they begin to open and used fresh, distilled for oil or dried for use in infusions and crafts.





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