

Salvia lyrata

'Purple Knockout'

North American Native Cultivar



Salvia (sal-vee-a)
From the Latin name *slavus*, safe, referring to the medicinal properties.

lyrata meaning lyre-shaped, referring to the leaves.



Zones: 5 – 9

Flower Color: Blue-bronze

Height: 3' **Spacing:** 18"



The wide bronze-red leaves of 'Purple Knockout' are tinged with green toward the center, are purple on the underside, and remain neat and tight to the soil surface. You will not likely have seen *Salvia* quite like this eastern U.S. native. The stiff flower stems shoot up from the base to 3' with small blue-bronze flower bracts swirling up the stem. The blooms appear in June–July, turn bronzy-red, and keep their form well through the summer, performing much like Lavender blooms do.

About the Species:

Common Name: Lyreleaf Sage, Cancer Weed

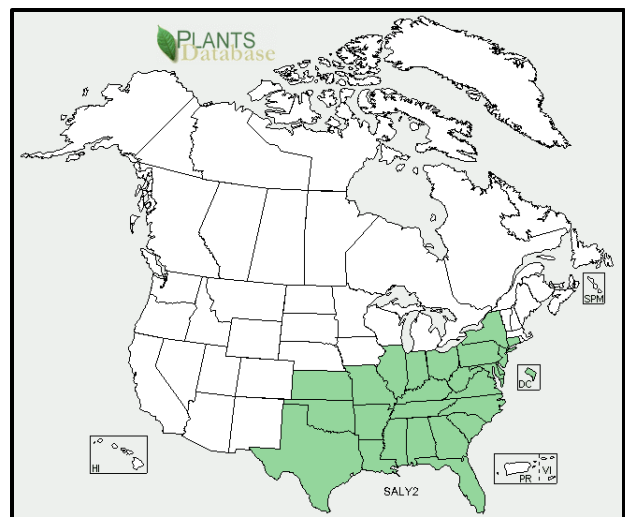
Family: Lamiaceae

The basal rosette of dark green leaves turn purplish and persist into winter, are tough enough to walk on and can be mowed, making this *Salvia* useful as a ground cover.



Habitat:

Found in rocky sites, open woods, and wet to dry meadows in sandy, to clay soils.



USDA Plants Database

In the Garden: Planted in full sun to part shade, *Salvia lyrata* can tolerate wet to dry soils.. *S. lyrata* easily self-sows to fill in and is best planted in at the edge of a meadow, in native plant gardens or naturalized areas.