



POLIOMINTHA MADERENSIS LAVENDER SPICE™

OUTSTANDING FEATURES: *Poliomintha maderensis* **Lavender Spice™** is an outstanding small shrub. Its compact size, showy and long-lasting flower display, and fragrant foliage combine to make this one of the best shrubs for low to medium deserts.

DESCRIPTION: *Poliomintha maderensis* **Lavender Spice™** (trademark name by Mountain States Wholesale Nursery) is a rounded shrub, growing to 3 feet tall and wide. The small, bright green leaves have the delicious fragrance of oregano. The tubular lavender flowers measure just over 1 inch long. These flowers are densely clustered together at the stem tips. Flowering starts in late April, continuing through the summer and into the fall. Initially, flowers appear a few at a time, but by late May the shrub is covered with them, and looks like a lavender ball until cooler weather hits.

CULTURE/MAINTENANCE: *Poliomintha maderensis* **Lavender Spice™** is a hardy shrub, tolerating lows of at least 0° F. Once established, it is drought tolerant, but blooms more profusely if given supplemental irrigation from late spring until early fall. When the plant is young, its growth rate is fast, but slows to moderate as the plant ages. Also, the growth rate will vary with the amount and frequency of supplemental irrigation. This clone is tolerant of a variety of soil types, and does not require much maintenance. However, a shearing in late winter will help increase vigor and flowering. Plant **Lavender Spice™** in full sun or light shade.

IDENTIFICATION: *Poliomintha maderensis* **Lavender Spice™** is not easily confused with any other plant when in bloom. When it is not flowering, the leaves resemble those of *Salvia greggii*, but it is easily distinguished by its distinctive fragrance.

LANDSCAPE APPLICATION: Use this plant as an evergreen shrub in full sun or very light shade in all zones of a xeriscape. Its long bloom period and fragrant foliage make it an ideal choice for residential gardens. Since this shrub has brittle stems, it should be placed away from sidewalks or other heavy traffic areas. **Lavender Spice™** mixes well with a variety of other desert-adapted landscape plants. Some good companion plants would include: *Eupatorium greggii* **Boothill™**, *Gaura lindheimeri*, *Melampodium leucanthum*, *Cordia parvifolia*, and *Leucophyllum pruinatum* **Sierra Bouquet™**. Its small size also allows it to be planted at the base of large accent plants such as *Dasyliirion longissimum*, *Nolina nelsoni*, *Yucca rostrata* and *Hesperaloe funifera*.



PRECAUTIONS: Aside from its brittle stems, *Poliomintha maderensis* **Lavender Spice™** does not seem to have any drawbacks. Rabbits do not seem to favor it, possibly due to the oregano fragrance. As far as we know, it is not bothered by any insect pests or diseases. It is an extremely low maintenance plant that would make a great addition to any landscape.

SHRUB

POLIOMINTHA MADERENSIS
LAVENDER SPICE™



SHRUB



Close up of the flowers of
Poliomintha maderensis
Lavender Spice™



AT A GLANCE SUMMARY

SIZE (HEIGHT x WIDTH)	3 feet x 3 feet
FLOWER COLOR	Lavender
FLOWER SEASON	Spring, summer, fall
EXPOSURE	Full sun, light shade
WATER	Low
GROWTH RATE	Moderate-fast
HARDINESS	0° F USDA 6
PRUNING	Shear in late winter
HARDY IN THESE CITIES	Phoenix, Tucson, Palm Desert, San Diego, Los Angeles, Las Vegas, El Paso, San Antonio, Austin, Dallas, Houston, Albuquerque

For more information, call: toll- free (800) 840-8509 or (623) 247-8509
Mountain States Wholesale Nursery, PO Box 2500, Litchfield Park, AZ 85340-2500