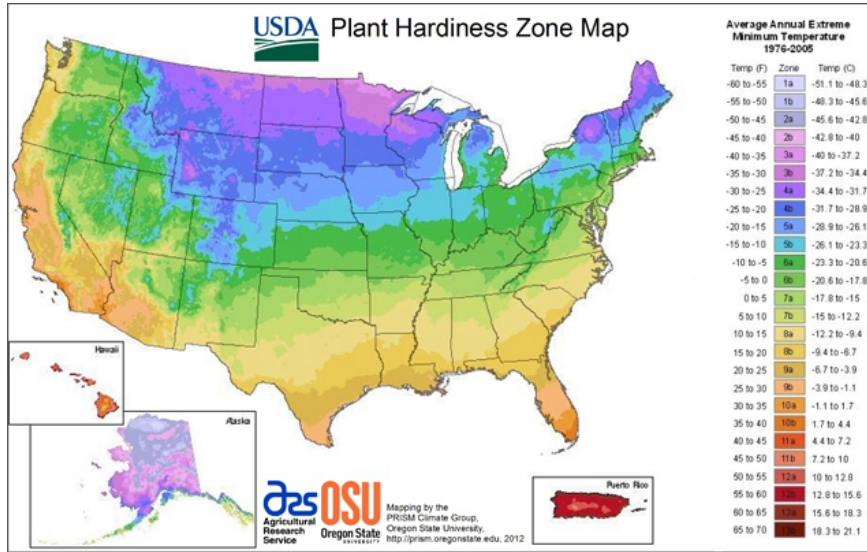


LAVENDER (Lavandula) CULTURAL CARE SHEET



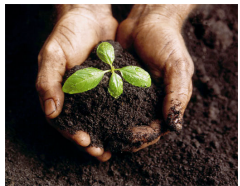
HARDINESS ZONE:

Lavender grows best in USDA Zones 5-10, although occasional loss of plants due to severe winter weather or wet humid summers is possible in Zone 5. Special care will be required if the plant is grown outside of its ideal growing Zones and it is best to consult with local Extension Service agents for localized growing tips and suggestions.



WATER NEEDS:

Water regularly, especially during the first growing season. Soil must have plenty of drainage as root rot may occur in soils that hold moisture. Water when soil appears dry and water at the base of the plant to limit dampness on the foliage.



SOIL:

Lavender will grow in almost any type of soil but perform best if planted in a warm, well-drained soil. Boggy, consistently wet soils promote "wet feet" and are not a good planting site for Lavender plants. Lavender is intolerant of dampness such as wet roots during winter or high humidity in summer. To ensure adequate air flow, plants need plenty of space between each other and need full sun for foliage dryness. Protect from harsh, dry, winter winds.



MULCHING:

A layer of 2-3 inches of mulch will keep the roots cooler and will provide vital nutrients to the plant as it breaks down. Mulch may need to be reapplied each year. A covering of mulch applied after the ground freezes in winter will benefit the Lavender plant.



LIGHT REQUIREMENTS:

Lavender requires a planting site in full sun. A full sun location receives at least six hours of direct sunlight each day.



PRUNING:

Lavender can be pruned simply by removing the flowers. To promote new growth and to maintain shape, prune in spring after new growth occurs by cutting back by one third of the plant's overall height.



FERTILIZE:

An application of an all-purpose fertilizer in early spring will help Lavender achieve their full growth potential. When planting, do not put fertilizer directly into the hole but rather, if desired, place fertilizer on top of the ground under the mulch and away from the stem of the plant. A handful of compost placed into the planting hole is also acceptable.