



Growing Lavender in NM

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Can Lavender grow in NM??

- Yes & No
- Well it depends...
 - ... on the variety
 - ... on your location
 - ... on your micro climate
 - ... on your soil

Your Location

- Soil type (clay vs sand; heavy vs well drained)
- Winter cold temp
- Summer heat temp
- Sun vs shade
- Elevation

Lavender origins

- Mediterranean region
- Latin – ‘lavare’ & French – lavandre to wash
- Used in baths + laundry
- Considered medicinal + healing

What lavender prefers ...

- Well drained soil
- Sunny location
- Good air circulation
- Room to grow
- Alkaline soils
- Mulch is good, but keep away from the crown

What lavender hates...

- water logged - wet feet
- Crowded planting
- Competition
- Smothered
- Over fertilizing – rich soils

Lavender harvest

- Flowers on NEW growth
- Prune in spring
- Cut long flower stems
- Harvest stems in early morning = higher oil content

Lavender uses

- Essential oils, salves, perfumes
- Cut flowers - fresh and dry
- Culinary syrups + drinks
- Pollinator friendly
- White, purple, blue, pink flowers
- Pictures - tourism

Propagation

- Immediately following bloom
- Remove spent flowers
- Remove bottom leaves
- Sterile well drained potting mix
- mister bench – even moist

Lavender challenges

- Die out
- Replanting often
- Pruning- tend to be woody and fall open
- Phytophthora rot
- Few insects issues – grasshoppers
- Toxic to pets

English Lavender (*L. angustifolia*)

- Winter hardy zone 5-9
- Tolerates cooler weather; doesn't tolerate extreme heat
- Compact evergreen shrub – silver narrow leaf
- Blooms early to mid-summer
- Culinary

English lavender varieties

- Munstead
- Hidcote
- Compacta
- Vintro
- Delft Blue
- Vera
- Pastor's Pride

Lavindins (L. x intermedia)

- Winter hardy zone 5-9
- More heat tolerant than English var.
- Bloom later in season
- Larger size than English
- Longer stems
- Contain more camphor

Lavandin varieties

- Grosso
- Provence
- Hidcote Giant
- Phenomenal
- Super
- Sensational!
- Riverina Thomas

'French' Lavender (*L. dentata*)

- Toothed leaves
- Tolerates humidity
- Winter hardy 8-11
- No cold or frost
- Heat tolerant
- Highly aromatic
- May bloom all season

'Spanish' Lavender (L. stoechas)

- Pineapple shape bloom
- Heat tolerant
- Winter hardy 7-11
- Many cold sensitive
- 'Silver Anouk' cold hardy to zone 6

Woolly lavender (*L. lantana*)

- Striking silver foliage
- Winter hardy 8-11
- Cold sensitive
- Deep purple flowers
- Heat tolerant
- No overhead watering

L. X ginginsii 'Goodwin Creek'

- Hybrid dentata x lantana (?)
- Winter hardy to 15F
- Zone (7) 8-11
- Grey tooth leaves
- Heat tolerant
- Tolerate humidity

Fernleaf Lavender (*L. pinnata*)

- Lacy foliage
- long flower stems
- Sharp blue-purple color
- Winter hardy 9-11
- Not frost tolerant
- Summer annual/ tender perennial
- Quick grower

Choose wisely

- Select varieties for YOUR site conditions
- Heat and Cold
- Soil type
- Look at oil vs culinary
- Perennial vs annual
- Bloom time - tourism

Resources

- NMSU Cultivar Trials North Central NM --
<https://pubs.nmsu.edu/research/horticulture/RR770/index.html>
- NMSU Extended Lavender Study --
<https://www.krwg.org/regional/2018-07-17/nmsus-extended-lavender-study-produces-varieties-resistant-to-root-diseases>
- Colostate Extension – Growing Lavender --
<https://extension.colostate.edu/topic-areas/yard-garden/growing-lavender-in-colorado-7-245/>
- Growing Lavender – California --
<https://anrcatalog.ucanr.edu/pdf/8135.pdf>

Resources

- Monrovia – www.Monrovia.com
- High Country Gardens – www.highcountrygardens.com
- Gardenia creating gardens – www.gardenia.net
- San Marcos Growers – smgrowers.com
- Mountain Valley Growers – mountainvalleygrowers.com
- US lavender Growers Assoc. – www.uslavender.org

Thank You

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