



ANNUAL LUPINE

Lupinus species. (From *lupus*, Latin for wolf. Folklore held that these flowers, often growing in massive clumps, ravaged the soil, wolf-like. We now know that just the opposite is true. As legumes, they are nitrogen-fixing soil enrichers.)

Why it Was Chosen to Reseed Wildfire Burned Areas:

- Blue lupine is often found in open, disturbed places, such as fire sites and roadsides, and is well-adapted to such locations.
- Like rose clover, lupine is a nitrogen fixer.
- It is a colorful harbinger of new life and provides environmental enhancement.
- Species native to California include: *Lupinus nanus* (Sky Lupine), *L. bicolor* (Pigmy-leaved Lupine), *L. densiflorus* var. *aureus* (Golden Lupine), *L. succulentus* (Arroyo Lupine), and *L. vallicola* (Valley Lupine).

How Much to Use:

On wildfire burn areas, use a broadcast seeding rate of 1.0 pound per acre.

It is always used as part of a mixture.

Home owners can buy this in seed packets where other flower seeds are sold. Use 4 ounces of seed for a 10,000 square foot area.

Other Uses in California:

Lupine is used for ornamental color and hillside revitalization.

Background:

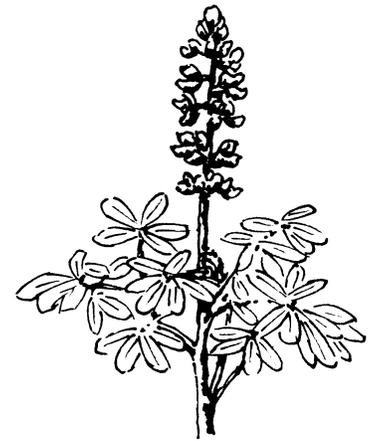
There are annual and perennial lupine species planted throughout California. Annual lupine has been successfully replanted and used on highway slopes.

It is usually not as widely distributed as the poppies, but generally healthy stands will be scattered throughout the planted area.

Insights for Homeowners:

Lupine will reseed if pods are allowed to form. They are poisonous to livestock.

What it Looks Like



A herb about one foot tall with handsome spikes of blue or white flowers whorled about the stem. The leaves are palmate, that is, with leaflets coming from a single point, like fingers from the palm of your hand.

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