

Lavender Cotton

'*Santolina chamaecyparissus*'

Lavender cotton, also called gray santolina, is a small, semi-woody, tender sub-shrub with aromatic, evergreen, silver-gray foliage. These plants dislike humid weather where they are more susceptible to fungal disease. They also tend to lose compact shape by opening up in the center. Deadhead spent flowers as soon as they fade. The odor from leaves and flowers is strong and distinctive. Lavender Cotton can be used in dried arrangement, potpourris and as an accent plant.

Type: perennial evergreen

USDA hardiness zones: 6a through 9b

Uses: herb gardens, borders, containers

Origin: not native to Florida

Height: 1 to 2 feet **Spread:** 2 to 3 feet

Plant spacing: 3 to 5 feet

Light requirement: full sun

Soil tolerances: sandy loam; very well drained

Drought tolerance: good

Soil salt tolerances: high

Invasive potential: not invasive

Pest resistance: no serious pests

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Photo: Herbolario Allium