

Lavandula latifolia

Lavandula latifolia, known as broadleaved lavender,[2] spike lavender, aspic lavender or Portuguese lavender, is a flowering plant in the family Lamiaceae, native to the western Mediterranean region, from central Portugal to northern Italy (Liguria) through Spain and southern France. Hybridization can occur in the wild with English lavender (*Lavandula angustifolia*).

The scent of *Lavandula latifolia* is stronger, with more camphor, and more pungent than *Lavandula angustifolia* scent. For this reason the two varieties are grown in separate fields.

Lavandula latifolia is a strongly aromatic shrub growing to 30–80 cm tall. The leaves are evergreen, 3–6 cm long and 5–8 mm broad.

The flowers are pale lilac, produced on spikes 2–5 cm long at the top of slender, leafless stems 20–50 cm long. Flowers from June to September, depending on weather.

The fruit is a nut, indehiscent, monosperm of hardened pericarp. It consists of 4 small nuts which often remain locked inside the calyx tube. Grows from 0 to 1,700 m amsl.[3]

The species name *latifolia* is Latin for "broadleaf". The genus name *Lavandula* simply means lavender.

Lavandula latifolia can be used in aromatherapy.[5]

