

Rosmarinus, Rosemary (*Lamiaceae*)



officinalis, Common rosemary

Evergreen shrub with upright habit, spreading, dense but adapts well to being trained into various shapes. The leaves are needle-shaped, 2-4cm long, just over a millimetre wide, bluish-green on the upper side, covered in a silvery tomentum underneath; very dense, they cover the branches from the base to the top, very aromatic and contain essential oil which is used to make perfume. Flowers: rich in nectar and much sought after by bees, grouped in 2 or 3 at the axil of the leaves on the previous year's branches. The

flowers open their corollas into a beautiful shade of blue with the first warm days of early spring, and last, very abundantly, until the end of May. Grows well in all types of soil, even dry and calcareous, and prefers sunny and warm positions.

officinalis "Prostratus"

Evergreen shrub, excellent ground-cover; flexible, weeping branches. Leaves the same as *R. officinalis*, flowers bluish-mauve from March to May. Same growing requirements as *R. officinalis*.

