Lavandula latifolia

[Synonyms : Lavandula cladophora, Lavandula decipiens, Lavandula erigens, Lavandula guinardi, Lavandula inclinans, Lavandula interrupta, Lavandula latifolia var. erigens, Lavandula latifolia var. tomentosa, Lavandula ovata, Lavandula spica, Lavandula spica var. latifolia, Lavandula spica var. ramosa]

SPIKED LAVENDER is an evergreen shrub. Found in the western regions of the Mediterranean it has small, greyish-blue flowers. It is also known as Alhucema (Spanish), Breitblättriger Lavendel (German), Broad-leaved lavender, English spike lavender, Lavendel (German), Lavendo larĝfolia (Esperanto), Lesser lavender, Leveälehtilaventeli (Finnish), Narde (German), Old English lavender, Speik (German), Spike lavender, Spikenarde (German), and Spiklavendel (German).

This species can sometimes be labelled Lavandula spica by gardening outlets.

Latifolia is made up of Latin lati- (broad, wide) and -folia (leaved) components.

Some authorities have believed that spiked lavender was the ‘spikenard’ mentioned in the Bible.

The plant has been depicted in porcelain painting. The shrub is used in perfumes, as well as in veterinary medicine and as an insect repellent.