

# Cayman Sage

## *Salvia caymanensis*

Cayman Sage (*Salvia Caymanensis*) is a short-lived perennial plant that is endemic to Grand Cayman and was once thought to be extinct. In 2007, the Department of Environment in cooperation with the Darwin Institute was so worried that it had died out altogether, they posted a \$1000 reward to anyone who could find it.

It was rediscovered on the Queen's Highway roadside that year by Carla Reid and, later, in a churchyard in West Bay by Ann Stafford. Seeds were collected and small numbers of plants have been living in people's gardens and at the Queen Elizabeth II Botanic Park ever since.

The Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew (UK) also has a small collection, used for display and education about conservation in UK Overseas Territories. In 2017, Cayman Sage was made a Category 1 protected species under the National Conservation Act.

Cayman Sage can be grown easily from seeds and plants are available for purchase from the Queen Elizabeth II Botanic Park.

