

A RUSSIAN SALVIA.

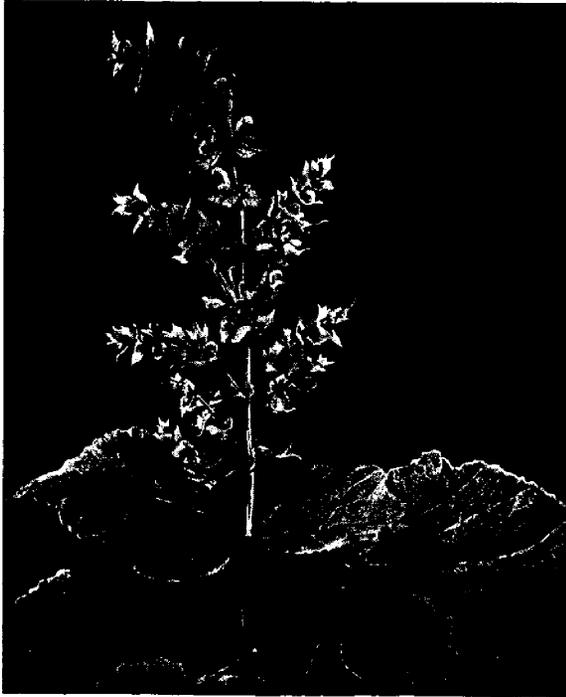


FIG. 997. —RUSSIAN SALVIA.

The illustration is from a photograph of a Russian Salvia, seeds of which were sent us in the spring of 1895 by Mr. Niemetz: The first year it did not flower, but this year, has grown most vigorously to a height of two or three feet with immense leaves, and spikes of white flowers. These latter were very showy against a background of Norway Spruce trees. Being easily grown from the seed, it is a flower within everybody's reach, and well adapted to the old-fashioned garden.

The Salvias are very numerous, about four hundred and fifty varieties having been described, two of them natives of Great Britain. Another, *S. officinalis*, is the well known sage, more in demand for its leaves, than for its fruit.