

# NARCOTIC EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION OF AMERICA

Drug Abuse Education Provider of the:

California Narcotic Officers' Association

## SALVIA divinorum

### QUICK FACTS:

Salvia divinorum, a.k.a. "Sally D;" "Magic Mint;" "Shepherdess' Herb;" "Ska Maria Pastora;" "Diviner's Sage" is a perennial herb in the mint family native to certain areas of Mexico. The plant, which can grow to over three feet in height, has large green leaves, hollow square stems and white flowers with purple calyces, can also be grown successfully outside of this region. Salvia divinorum has been used by the Mazatec Indians for its ritual divination and healing. The active constituent of Salvia divinorum has been identified as salvinorin A. Salvia divinorum remains legal in most countries and, within the United States, is legal in the majority of states. Some have called for its prohibition. While not currently regulated by US federal drug laws, several states have passed laws criminalizing the substance.

Salvia divinorum is a [psychoactive](#) plant which can induce [dissociative](#) effects and is a potent producer of "visions" and other hallucinatory experiences. Its native habitat is within [cloud forest](#) in the isolated [Sierra Mazateca](#) of [Oaxaca, Mexico](#), growing in shady and moist locations. The plant grows to over a meter high, has hollow square stems, large leaves, and occasional white and violet flowers.

Salvia divinorum is grown domestically and is imported from Mexico and Central and South America. The Internet is used for the promotion and distribution of Salvia divinorum. It is sold as seeds, plant cuttings, whole plants, fresh and dried leaves, extract-enhanced leaves of various strengths ( 5x, 10x, 20x, 30x), and liquid extracts purported to contain salvinorin A. These products are also sold at head shops and tobacco shops.

Dry leaves can be smoked in a pipe, but most users prefer the use of a [water pipe](#) to cool the smoke. Some find that untreated dry leaf produces unnoticeable or only light effects. Concentrated preparations or [extracts](#) which may be smoked in place of untreated leaves, have become widely available. This enhanced (or "fortified") leaf is described by a number followed by an x (e.g. 5x, 10x), the multiplicative factors being generally indicative of the relative amounts of leaf concentrate, though there is no accepted standard for these claims. Other sources may use a system of color codes to form their own standards of potency; for example, "green", "yellow", and "red."

### WARNING:

SALVIA DIVINORUM IS NOT A "FUN DRUG", IT SHOULD NEVER BE USED FOR PARTING PURPOSES



### Symptoms/Side-Effects:

- ◆ Visual impairment
- ◆ Synesthesia: (hear colors and smell sounds)
- ◆ Disorientation, dizziness
- ◆ Perceptions of bright lights, vivid colors and shapes
- ◆ Uncontrollable body movements
- ◆ Uncontrolled laughter
- ◆ Hallucinations (seeing objects that are not present)
- ◆ Adverse physical effects (lack of coordination)
- ◆ Dizziness
- ◆ Dilated pupils
- ◆ Slurred speech.

