Phoenix™ Violet Beard Tongue

Penstemon hartwegii 'Phoenix Violet'



Phoenix Violet Beard Tongue flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 30 inches

Spread: 12 inches

Spacing: 8 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Other Names: Beardtongue

Group/Class: Phoenix Series

Description:

An impressive penstemon producing violet trumpet flowers with contrasting white centers rising above green foliage; makes a beautiful visual impact when massed in the garden, along walkways, or in borders

Ornamental Features

Phoenix Violet Beard Tongue has masses of beautiful spikes of violet trumpet-shaped flowers with white centers rising above the foliage from early summer to early fall, which emerge from distinctive dark red flower buds, and which are most effective when planted in groupings. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its narrow leaves remain green in color throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Phoenix Violet Beard Tongue is an herbaceous annual with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other garden plants with less refined foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant, and is best cleaned up in early spring before it resumes active growth for the season. It is a good choice for attracting bees, butterflies and hummingbirds to your yard. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Phoenix Violet Beard Tongue is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

Phoenix Violet Beard Tongue will grow to be about 24 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 12 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 8 inches apart. Although it's not a true annual, this fast-growing plant can be expected to behave as an annual in our climate if left outdoors over the winter, usually needing replacement the following year. As such, gardeners should take into consideration that it will perform differently than it would in its native habitat.

Retail Locations

Hopkinton
93 East Main Street
Hopkinton, MA 01748
(508) 435-3414

Chelmsford
160 Pine Hill Road
Chelmsford, MA 01824
(978) 349-0055

Hingham
1099 Main Street
Hingham, MA 02043
(781) 749-3773

Wholesale Locations

Hopkinton
40 Frankland Road
Hopkinton, MA 01748
Phone: (508) 293-8028

Middleborough
3 River Street
Middleborough, MA 02346
Phone: (508) 946-1505

Chelmsford
160 Pine Hill Road
Chelmsford, MA 01824
Phone: (978) 349-0055

Hingham
1099 Main Street
Hingham, MA 02043
(781) 749-3773

This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It prefers dry to average moisture levels with very well-drained soil, and will often die in standing water. It is considered to be drought-tolerant, and thus makes an ideal choice for a low-water garden or xeriscape application. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America. It can be propagated by division; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

Phoenix Violet Beard Tongue is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. With its upright habit of growth, it is best suited for use as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the center of the pot, surrounded by smaller plants and those that spill over the edges. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.