# Wallitsch Nursery And Garden Center

2608 Hikes Lane Louisville, KY, 40218 phone: 502-454-3553 www.wallitsch.net

## **Phoenix Magenta Beard Tongue**



### Phoenix™ Magenta Beard Tongue Penstemon hartwegii 'Phoenix Magenta'

Plant Height: 16 inches
Flower Height: 22 inches

Spread: 12 inches
Spacing: 8 inches
Sunlight: O •

Hardiness Zone: (annual)
Other Names: Beardtongue
Group/Class: Phoenix Series

#### **Description:**

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



Phoenix Magenta Beard Tongue flowers Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

#### **Ornamental Features**

Phoenix Magenta Beard Tongue has masses of beautiful spikes of fuchsia trumpet-shaped flowers with white centers rising above the foliage from early summer to early fall, 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 Magenta 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 Magenta Beard Tongue is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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

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#### **Planting & Growing**

Phoenix Magenta Beard Tongue will grow to be about 16 inches tall at maturity extending to 22 inches tall with the flowers, 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.

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 Magenta 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.