

***Penstemon attenuatus***

**Family:** *Scrophulariaceae*

**Common names:** taper-leaf penstemon



Taper-leaf penstemon is a native perennial that blooms in early to mid summer. It grows from 1 to 2 feet and is drought tolerant.

It can tolerate full sun to sun/shade conditions and does best on well-drained soils.

Taper-leaf penstemon has leaves that are deep green, that form a basal rosette with lance shaped smaller leaves on the stem. Flowers are whorled clusters of blue to purple and even cream.



Taper-leaf penstemon is found on open to wooded slopes, dry meadows and rocky or gravelly sites of the Inland Northwest.

**Use in the landscape:** Taper-leaf penstemon is a beautiful perennial for a wildflower garden, perennial border or rock garden. The brilliant flowers make it a great species to attract bees, butterflies and hummingbirds to your yard.



**Propagation:** Taper-leaf penstemon can be grown from seed collected in the late summer and planted outside in the fall or give a cold stratification (winter).

**References**

Kershaw, Linda; MacKinnon, Andy; Pojar Jim. 1998. *Plants of the Rocky Mountains*. Lone Pine Publishing. Canada.

Robson, Kathleen A.; Richter, Alice; Filbert, Marianne. 2008. *Encyclopedia of Northwest Native Plants for Gardens and Landscapes*. Timber Press, Inc. Portland, Oregon.

Taylor, Ronald J. 1992. *Sagebrush Country: A Wildflower Sanctuary*. Mountain Press Publishing Company. Missoula, MT

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USDA Plants Database <http://plants.usda.gov/index.html>