Top Photo: North American Rock Garden Society Member Bottom Photo: Real Gardens Grow

Natives

Broad-leaved Penstemon, Egg-leaf Penstemon

Penstemon ovatus

Light: Full Sun

Soil: Sand, Gravel

Moisture: Average to Dry with proper drainage

Benefits: Pollinators, Butterflies, Hummingbirds, Host Plant, Deer

Resistant

Height: 2'-3'

Blooms: Jun

Zones: 4, 5, 6, 7

Color: Sky Blue to Lavender-blue

Spacing: 1'-2'

Root: Fibrous

Native to the Pacific Northwest, Broad-leaved Penstemon are now found throughout North America. The plants are long-lived, upright and nicely proportioned, preferring well-drained soil with a fair amount of organic matter. More sun tends to increase flowering, though they will tolerate virtually any light situation except for deep shade or excessive sun.

A wonderful pollinator and host plant providing a special value to native bees, grouping multiple plants makes it easier for pollinators to locate them. In addition, small songbirds may eat the seeds of the mature plants and the foliage provides cover for tiny beneficials.