

SUBGENUS: *PENSTEMON*

Section: *Penstemon*

Subsection: *Gairdneriani*

CULTIVATION OF EACH SPECIES

Table 22

[subgenus]	PENSTEMON
[section]	<i>Ambigui</i> <i>Baccharifolii</i> <i>Chamaeleon</i> <i>Coerulei</i> <i>Cristati</i> <i>Ericopsis</i> <i>Fasciculus</i> <i>Peltanthera</i> <i>Penstemon</i>
[subsection]	<i>Arenarii</i> (2) <i>Deusti</i> (3) <i>Gairdneriani</i> (2) <i>Harbouriani</i> (1) <i>Humiles</i> (19) <i>Multiflora</i> (1) <i>Penstemon</i> (17) <i>Proceri</i> (16) <i>Tubaeflora</i> (1)

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF PENSTEMONS IN SECTION *PENSTEMON*


Many good garden subjects in this section. Plants are relatively tall, leafy, and herbaceous or, occasionally subshrubby. . They are leafy and have small flowers.



Species: *gairdneri*, *serorsus*






Penstemon gairdneri v. *gairdneri* Courtesy of: © 2002 Thayne Tuason

Table 22. *Penstemon Penstemon Gairdneriani*

Key
 Column 1 SPECIES: species name; plant height when in bloom; color(s) of flower; fill in lavender  =popular; parenthesis = not reported in cultivation
 Column 3 CULTIVATION SUGGESTIONS:
 Row 1 SIZE OF FLOWER: **very large**=>1 ½“ **large**=1-1 3/8” **medium**= ½ - 1” **small**=< ½“
 Row 2 GENERAL DESCRIPTION
 Row 3: DISPLAY SUGGESTIONS
 Row 4: WHERE SPECIES HAS BEEN SUCCESSFULLY CULTIVATED OUT OF NATIVE HABITAT

 full sun  partial shade

Species	Bloom Season in Native Habitat	Cultivation Suggestions	Cultivation Needs			Elevation and Habitat	Distribution	Reported cold hardiness in cultivation
			Garden Soil	Moisture	Sun			
<p><i>gairdneri</i> 4-6-” x 4” wide</p> <p>white, pink, orchid, lavender, blue</p>	May-July	<p>medium flower choice; floriferous;</p> <p>subshrub, many-stemmed and only species with truly alternate leaves;</p> <p>appears dead during winter <u>varieties</u> <i>oreganus</i> >6”, more robust, soft blue</p> <p>rock garden, trough cultivated in: may not survive without winter cover in WA, one report says it will not, and 1 report from eWA reports success; OR</p>	<p>poor, sandy; coarse or medium textured lean soil;</p> <p>pH 6.3-8 root depth 16”</p>	<p>drought tolerant</p> <p>10-16” rain</p>	<p></p>	<p>3250-5800’</p> <p>dry, rocky sites, often with sagebrush; plains to moderate elevations in mountains; basalt scablands found on the east side of the Cascades</p>	<p>WA, OR, ID</p> 	<p>reports vary from zone 4 to zone 6</p>
<p><i>seorsus</i> ~1’ lavender to violet, blue, pink</p> <p>rare</p>	May-June	<p>medium flower</p> <p>cultivated in: not reported in cultivation</p>	<p>lean, rocky</p>	<p>10-16”</p>	<p></p>	<p>4900-6600’ dry sagebrush flats, low hills; dry rocky places, ridge tops</p>	<p>c.. OR to sw. ID</p> 