

**SUBGENUS: *PENSTEMON***

**Section: *Penstemon***

**Subsection: *Harbouriani***

**CULTIVATION OF EACH SPECIES**

**Table 23**

[subgenus] **PENSTEMON**

[section] *Ambigui* *Baccharifolii* *Chamaeleon* *Coerulei* *Cristati* *Ericopsis* *Fasciculus* *Peltanthera* ***Penstemon***

[subsection] *Arenarii* (2) *Deusti* (3) *Gairdneriani* (2) ***Harbouriani*** (1) *Humiles* (19) *Multiflora* (1) *Penstemon* (17) *Proceri* (16) *Tubaeflora* (1)

**Species *harbouri***




*Penstemon harbouri* courtesy of [www.filuna.cz/.../Penstemon%20harbouri%20\(2\).jpg](http://www.filuna.cz/.../Penstemon%20harbouri%20(2).jpg)

**Table 23. *Penstemon Penstemon Harbouriani***

**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   |  |   |  |
| <b>harbouri</b><br>3-5” x 16” wide<br>powder blue or lilac purple |                                | <b>medium flower</b><br>short racemes (unbranched inflorescence/bloom stalk with each flower on a little stem/pedice and attached to the main stem/axis) of attractive power-blue flowers<br><br>clumping, creeping plant; loose mats of green, leathery foliage covered with flowers<br><br>one of the smallest penstemons; may be difficult to grow<br><b>small rock garden, trough</b><br>cultivated in: OR, CO. Cultivation interest evident as seeds sold by a seed company in Colorado | scree; or mix of sand, soil, granite grit | snow pack; protect from winter rain | ☀<br>be aware that alpine penstemons may be difficult to grow and maintain at lower altitudes | 10,000-13,500’<br>scree slopes, rock slides, talus | CO<br> | zone 3                                 |

Most penstemons are visited by several bee species including honeybees and bumblebees. While hummingbirds prefer red penstemons, they commonly are seen at most penstemon species.