

**SUBGENUS: *PENSTEMON***  
**Section: *Baccharifolii***

**CULTIVATION OF EACH SPECIES**  
**Table 5**

[subgenus]	<b>PENSTEMON</b>
[section]	<i>Ambigui</i> <b><i>Baccharifolii</i></b> (1) <i>Chamaeleon</i> <i>Coerulei</i> <i>Cristati</i> <i>Ericopsis</i> <i>Fasciculus</i> <i>Peltanthera</i> <i>Penstemon</i>

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF SUBGENUS *Penstemon*

“The unifying feature is that the anther sacs are hairless and , when ripe, they split fully end to end and line up at right angles to the filament. There are a few exceptions to this rule, but the chances are that if you see four tiny gaping mouths facing you when you look at a flower then you are in subgenus *Penstemon*”<sup>1</sup>  
As we learn more about this attractive species, it appears it deserves increased attention from gardeners. It has done well as both an annual and perennial from coast to coast.

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<sup>1</sup> Way, David and James, Peter. 2003. “The Gardener’s Guide to Growing Penstemons.” Portland. Timber Press. p 75.



*Penstemon baccharifolius*



*Penstemon baccharifolius*

**Species**

*baccharifolius*

**Table 5. *Penstemon Baccharifolii***

**Key**  
 Cell entitled "Species"  popular    parenthesis = not reported in cultivation    plant height when in bloom    EASY =easy to grow    color(s) of flower

**Column 3 entitled 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 garden display suggestions: rock garden, raised bed, trough, dryland garden, border  
 Row 4 where species has been successfully cultivated out of its native habitat

**Cell entitled Sun:**    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			
<i>baccharifolius</i> 17.6" x 13.7" wide crimson-rose-scarlet <b>rare</b>	June-October	<b>large flower</b> unique red color is dramatic with white at the throat long-blooming; desirable even for those who must raise it as an annual evergreen; shrub; will bloom first year; <b>rock garden</b> VA, AZ, TX, WA, NM, CA, CO	good drainage	little to moderate when established	 	limestone cliffs of Edwards Plateau of Texas Hill Country	s. TX, Mexico	Zone 7 to 32°F

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. More photos: "Library" tab on this website; or <http://plants.usda.gov/gallery.html>