

Physostegia--Obedient Plant, False Dragonhead

Rose, purple, or white flowers bloom in late summer in four vertical rows on square stems. The leaves are green in the spring and summer, sometimes crimson or red in the fall. The name obedient plant comes from the odd fact that the flower heads, when twisted on the stem, stay as arranged instead of springing back as most flowers do.

Growing Requirements

Physostegia like sun to partial shade and moist, acidic soils. Because of its height, staking may be required.

Planting

Plant behind shorter flowers to hide lower part of stems. Height ranges from 2' to 4' and 3' wide, depending upon variety.

Care

This is a very vigorous grower so fertilization is not recommended. Remove unwanted plants before flowering. Under certain circumstances may be considered invasive.

Pests/Diseases

None identified. Deer Resistant.

Dividing /Propagating

Easy to divide in spring and share with your friends!

Want more information? We're Here to Help!



Helpline: 908.654.9852

Email: mastergardeners@ucnj.org

Website: mastergardeners-uc.org

Rutgers Cooperative Extension