

# Obedient Plant Botanical Name: *Physostegia virginiana*



Photo by & grown by: John Brandauer

**Description:** Above is one of the five varieties we grow, in ten different colonies the others: lavender, white, giant and variegated. Obedient Plant got its common name because you can bend the individual flowers in any direction you like a nice feature for floral displays? Unfortunately, obedient plant is not so obedient in the garden, where it can spread to the point of nuisance (not to me). Zone 3-10

**Common Names:**Obedient Plant, False Dragonhead **Family:**Lamiaceae

**Growth Rate:** Fast

**Soil Preference:** prefers sandy loam, tolerates clay.

**Light Requirements:** Full sun to shade

**Pests and diseases:** Rarely a problem

**Care:** Requires consistently moist soil; do not let dry out between watering, or at least try to water.

**Blooms:** Pastels, Pink, Violet, Lavender, White to near White, in late summer to early fall. Bloom from the bottom of the stalk up.

**Size:** Usually 2 – 3 feet, some variance with soil and moisture.

**Native habitat:** Native to MOST of the US, threatened in Vermont.

Resistant to deer and rabbit. Attracts hummingbirds, butterflies and bees. Blooming begins as hummingbirds are migrating for us.

**Notes :** **Potentially aggressive grower, spreads by rhizome, can form dense colonies.** Reducing water limits growth, but do not let it get too dry.

Information compiled from the web, supplemented by our experiences.

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