



# Utah Penstemon

*Penstemon utahensis*

Figwort Family (Scrophulariaceae)

Zones: 4-9

Full Sun

Low Water

Location: Children's Garden

Utah Penstemon is a beautiful wildflower from the deserts of southern Utah. It has basal, blue-green evergreen foliage to about 1 foot wide and 4 inches tall. From the basal tuft, 12-18 inch tall flower stalks emerge in spring and are covered in coral-red flowers.

Plant Utah Penstemon in full sun and well draining soil, it requires no supplemental irrigation once established. Prune the spent flower stalks to increase the vigor of the plant, and for a possible re-bloom later in the spring.

There are over 70 species of Penstemon native to Utah. Species vary in height, flower color, foliage color, moisture, and light requirements. They can be 3-4 feet tall, 3 inches tall, fragrant, red, blue, purple, or pink, full sun or shade tolerant, xeric or mesic. Whatever the environmental conditions, there is probably a Penstemon that has learned how to thrive in them.