

## Plant Data Sheet



Menzies' penstemon,  
*Penstemon davidsonii* var. *menziesii*

### Range :

Olympic and North Cascade Mountains.

### Climate, elevation:

Middle to high elevations.

### Local occurrence

Frequent on cliffs and talus slopes usually above 5000'.

### Habitat preferences

Talus slopes. Full sun.

### Plant strategy type/successional

*P. Davidsonii* var *menziesii* is a colonizer as it prefers rocky slopes and cracks with poor soil where few other plants could establish themselves.

### Associated species

*Aquilegia* spp, *Cassiope mertensiana*, *Poa arctica*, *Vahlodea atropurpurea*, *Carex nardina*, *Plox* spp, *Erigeron humilis*.

### May be collected as:

seed

### Collection restrictions or guidelines

Careful! Alpine plants can be delicate!

### Seed germination (needs dormancy breaking?)

Unknown

Seed life (can be stored, short shelf-life, long shelf-life)

Unknown

Recommended seed storage conditions

Unknown

Propagation recommendations (plant seeds, vegetative parts, cuttings, etc.)

Propagates easily from seed.

Soil or medium requirements (inoculum necessary?)

Needs a sandy, acidic, well drained soil.

Installation form (form, potential for successful outcomes, cost)

Best if used in a rock garden with other alpine flowering plants. While propagation from seed would be cheaper, the success of transplanting a 1 gallon specimen would be better.

1 gallon - \$6.99

Seed Packets \$3 from [http://www.hillkeep.ca/2001\\_seed\\_list.htm](http://www.hillkeep.ca/2001_seed_list.htm)

Recommended planting density

No more than 16 inches, in perfect conditions *P. davidsonii* only will reach about a 1 ft diameter.

Care requirements after installed

Water weekly, keep pH low.

Normal rate of growth or spread; lifespan

Very slow growing.

Sources cited

1. [http://plants.usda.gov/cgi\\_bin/plant\\_profile.cgi?symbol=PEDAD](http://plants.usda.gov/cgi_bin/plant_profile.cgi?symbol=PEDAD)
2. [http://www.wnps.org/plants/penstemon\\_davidsonii\\_var\\_menziesii.html](http://www.wnps.org/plants/penstemon_davidsonii_var_menziesii.html)
3. [http://www.nargs.org/potm/potm\\_jan03.html](http://www.nargs.org/potm/potm_jan03.html)
4. Hitchcock, C. Leo; Cronquist, Arthur. Flora of the Pacific Northwest: An Illustrated Manual. University of Washington Press. 1987.
5. MacKinnon, Andy; Pojar, Jim. Plants of the Pacific Northwest Coast: Washington, Oregon, British Columbia and Alaska. Lone Pine Publishing. 1994.

Data compiled by Christer Lundstrom