



Beardtongue is a clump-forming prairie plant with white tubular flowers that bloom mid-spring to early summer. It grows to three to five feet. The flowering stalk turns dark brown with oval seed capsules. This stalk falls over, helping to distribute the seeds.

The flowers attract honeybees and bumblebees. The tiny white hairs on the anthers resemble small combs or beards. These brush against the bee and cause the stamens to bend down and deposit pollen on the bee's back. The seeds are not usually eaten by birds, nor are the leaves a food to deer.

The plant grows in dry to medium moisture, well-drained soil in full sun. The flowering stalks often grow above neighboring plants.

Caption

Foxglove Beardtongue

Penstemon digitalis

<http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinderDetails.aspx?kempercode=g590>

http://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/prairie/plantx/fx_penstemonx.htm