



Sticky Geranium in *the Landscape*

By: Heidi Kratsch, Extension Ornamental Horticulture Specialist
Graham Hunter, Research Associate, Center for Water-Efficient Landscaping

Geranium viscosissimum

Sticky Geranium



Description

Sticky hairs cover the surface of this plant's foliage, producing a characteristic geranium odor. The plant can reach heights over 2 feet tall, and bears pink to purple saucer-shaped flowers with petals averaging about 1/2 inch in length. It has a deeply lobed

dark green leaf that has a beautiful red fall color. The flowers are palatable to many wild animals.

Cultural Requirements:

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| • Native habitat | prairies, dry hills, woodlands |
| • Soil | well drained |
| • Cold Tolerance | Zones 4 - 7 |
| • Drought Tolerance | High |
| • Water Tolerance | Can become unruly under high water situations |
| • Salt Tolerance | none |
| • Sun/Shade Preference | full sun, partial shade |
| • Transplanting | easy |
| • Propagation | Seed, division |

- Maintenance Cut back in fall, avoid cutting into the crown
- Pest problems Occasionally browsed

Landscape Value:

- Use in the Landscape Background, soil stabilization, wildlife protection and food source
- Foliage Attractive palmate leaf
- Inflorescence showy

| | Apr | May | June | July | Aug | Sept | Oct |
|---------|-----|-----|------|------|-----|------|-----|
| • Color | | | | | | | |

- Fruit (seed heads) Unique form resembling a stocks bill
- Form round
- Texture medium
- Ultimate Size 3x3 feet
- Rate of Growth fast
- Plant Community Subalpine, coniferous forest, aspen forest, meadows, mountain brush, shrub steppe
- Availability Low
- Cultivars unknown

Propagation

To start seed indoors plant directly into containers. No cold stratification required. To start outdoors, sow seed in the desired location and cover with ¼" soil. Water in. Start in the fall. Look for results the following spring

Additional Photos:

Photo credits: Graham Hunter



References

Mee, Barnes, Kjelgren, Sutton, Cerny, Johnson. (2003). *Waterwise; Native Plants for Intermountain Landscapes*. Logan: Utah State University Press.

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