

Geranium psilostemon Armenian Cranesbill

Geranium psilostemon (Armenian Cranesbill) boasts blankets of vibrant magenta flowers in early summer. These large (1 ¼" across) magenta flowers with contrasting black centers bloom from June through August. Light petals have a crinkled, tissue-paper appearance and tremble in the breeze. The tubular flower shape attracts butterflies and long-tongued bees. The palmate, medium green leaves interlock to form a robust, mounding plant that fills a space well. Plants reach 2.5-4' high with a slightly larger spread (3-4' wide). In fall, foliage turns a brilliant fire red. The genus name comes from the Greek word *geranos*, meaning crane, in reference to the elongated seed pods that resemble the bill of a crane. Plants will thrive in medium, well-drained soils and full sun, although part shade is tolerated.

Botanical Name: Geranium psilostemon

Common Name: Armenian Cranesbill

Family: Geraniaceae

Nativity: Not Native to US

USDA Zone: 5 to 7

Light Type: Full Sun to Part Shade; prefers full sun

Soil Type: Loam, Sand, Clay

Soil Preferences: Prefers moist, fertile, well-drained soil

Soil Moisture: Medium

Typical height (ft): 2.5-4'

Typical width (ft): 3-4'

Foliage: Medium Green; fall color red

Bloom Time: June, July, August

Bloom: Magenta with black centers

Ecological features: Provides floral resources, especially for long-tongued bees and butterflies

Tolerance of: Drought, deer

Additional notes: Lovely when planted in masses; heat sensitive

Companion plants: Allium, Purple Coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*), Sedum, Peony (*Paeonia lactiflora*), Meadow Rue (*Thalictrum aquilegifolium*), Reblooming Daylily (*Hemerocallis 'Stella de Oro'*), Frikart's Aster (*Aster x frikartii 'Monch'*), Feverfew (*Tanacetum parthenium*), Salvia

For more information see:

<http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinderDetails.aspx?taxonid=280879&isprofile=0&>

<https://www.gardenia.net/plant/geranium-psilostemon-armenian-cranesbill>

<http://www.perennials.com/plants/geranium-psilostemon.html>

Images of Geranium psilostemon



Geranium_psilostemon1_ies.jpg
plant form



Geranium_psilostemon_kz02.jpg

Foliage



Geranium_psilostemon_16-08-2005_20.03.16.JPG

Flower close up



<http://allanbecker-gardenguru.squarespace.com/journal/2009/1/31/the-gigantic-geranium-a-very-reliable-perennial.html>

Fall color



<https://www.picfair.com/pics/06516294-armenian-cranesbill-geranium-psilostemon-patricia>
plants en masse

Image choices for narrative:

Geranium_psilostemon1_ies.jpg - plant form

Geranium_psilostemon_16-08-2005_20.03.16.JPG - Flower close up