

Persicaria amplexicaulis 'Firetail' Firetail Mountain Fleece

Persicaria amplexicaulis 'Firetail' (Firetail Mountain Fleece) bursts into flaming blooms from July to first frost. The dense foliage provides a bushy form while spikes of bright red flowers (6" long) float above the dark green leaves. Use Firetail Mountain Fleece to accent tall grasses and add bold buoyancy to the garden. Bees and butterflies are attracted to the nectar of *Persicaria* species. Leaves transition to reds and golds in fall. Thrives in full to part sun and loam or part-clay soils. Prefers moist to wet soils, making it well-suited for pond, stream, or rain garden edges. Can be sensitive to drought and heat, so plants appreciate ample moisture and part shade in warmer climates. Related species have aggressive tendencies, but this plant behaves well as long as it's given plenty of space.

Botanical Name: *Persicaria amplexicaulis* 'Firetail'

Common Name: Firetail Mountain Fleece

Family: Polygonaceae

Nativity: Not Native to US

USDA Zone: 4 to 7

Light Type: Full sun to part shade

Soil Type: Loam, Clay

Soil Moisture: Medium to wet, well-drained

Typical height (ft): 3-4' flower spikes float above bushy basal foliage

Typical width (ft): 3-4'

Foliage: Leaves are oval-shaped, tapering to a fine point.

Bloom Time: July, August, September, October

Bloom: Red

Ecological features: nectar resource for bees, short-tongued pollinators, and butterflies; rarely browsed by mammalian herbivores

Tolerance of: Deer, rabbit

Additional notes: New cultivar, limited information, stay tuned.

Companion plants: Karl Foerster Feather Reed Grass, Joe-Pye Weed (*Eupatorium* spp.), Japanese Anemone (*Anemone hupehensis*), Asters, Tall Verbena (*Verbena bonariensis*), October Skies Aromatic Aster (*Symphotrichum oblongifolium* 'Aromatic Aster')

For more information see:

<http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinderDetails.aspx?kempercode=t230>

<https://www.gardenia.net/plant/persicaria-amplexicaulis-firetail-mountain-fleece>

<http://www.perennials.com/plants/persicaria-amplexicaulis-firetail.html>

<https://www.gardeningknowhow.com/ornamental/flowers/mountain-fleece/mountain-fleece-information.htm>

Images of *Persicaria amplexicaulis* 'Firetail'



Bistorta amplexicaulis 'Firetail' 03.jpg

Mass planting showing dense, 'ground cover' habit.



Bistorta amplexicaulis 'Firetail' 02.jpg
Close-up of bright red flower spikes.



Bistorta amplexicaulis 'Firetail' 01.jpg
Mass planting. Leaves show fall color mottling.



persicaria-3.jpg
Good pairing with tall grasses.



Persicaria amplexicaulis 'Firetail' - J. C. Raulston Arboretum - DSC06210.JPG
Plant form is upright, with dense, branching foliage.

Image choices for narrative:

Bistorta amplexicaulis 'Firetail' 01.jpg - Mass planting. Leaves show fall color mottling.

Bistorta amplexicaulis 'Firetail' 02.jpg - Close-up of bright red flower spikes.