

Collinsia heterophylla



<http://www.coepark.org/wildflowers/purple/collinsia-heterophylla.html>

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Taxonomy

- Scientific Name- *Collinsia heterophylla*
Collinsia is named after Zaccheus Collins, heterophylla means the leaves are different on the same plant
- Synonym- *Collinsia bicolor*
- Common Names- Chinese Houses, Purple Chinese Houses
- Family-Figwort Family, Scrophulariaceae

Geographic Distribution

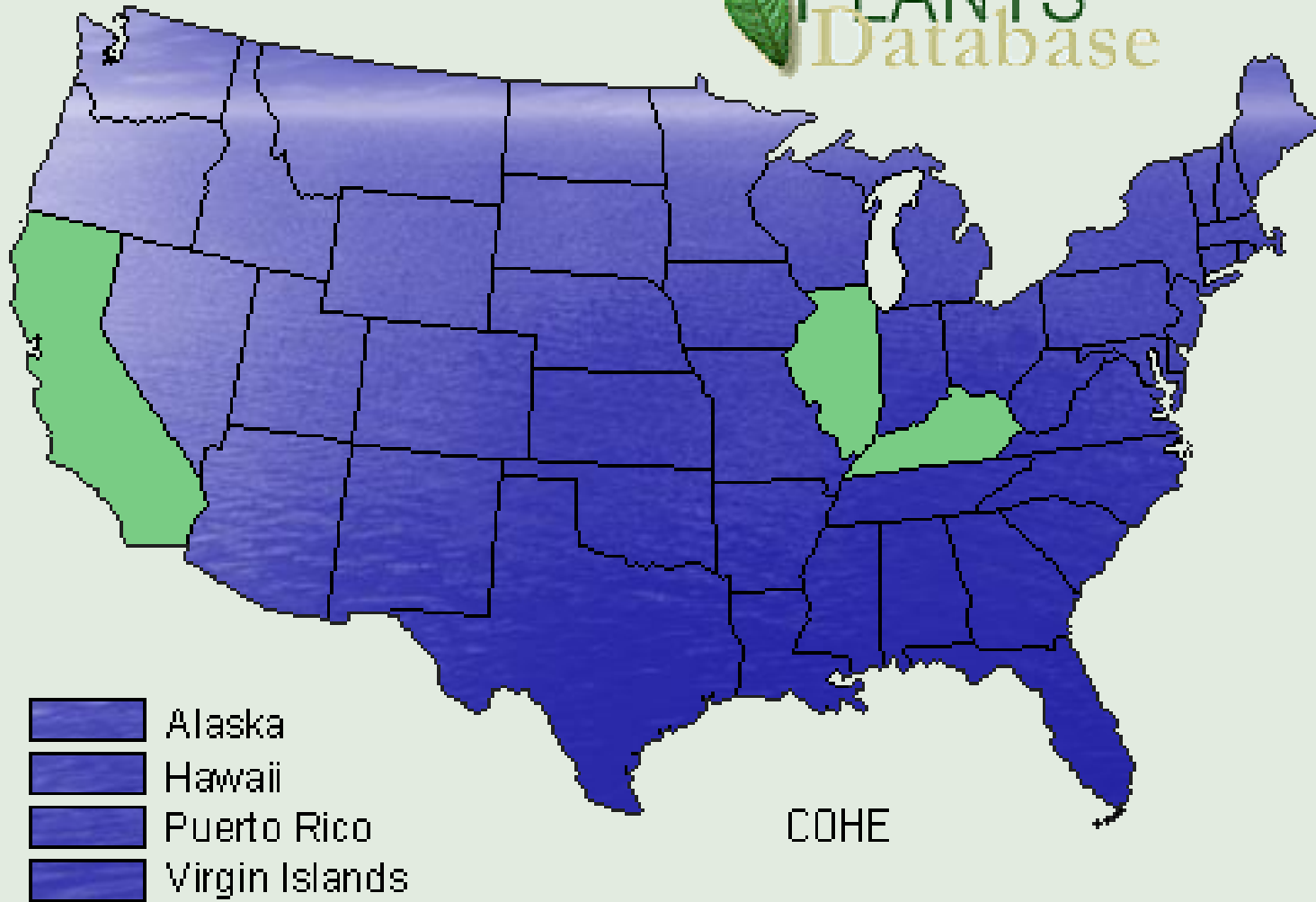
- Continents-North America
- Countries-United States
- State-Native to California, also found in Illinois and Kentucky
- Latitudinal Ranges-32°-42°
- Altitude-0 and 5000 feet, most below 2500'
- Reseeds itself, not found to be invasive



<http://www.pitt.edu/~kalisz/collinsiaphylogeny.html>



PLANTS
Database



Native Habitat

- Habitat: on slopes
- Plant Communities: Yellow Pine Forest, Foothill Woodland, Chaparral, Valley Grassland



Taxonomic Description

- Erect to spreading, 12" up to 24" tall with 12"-24" wide
- Annuals
- Root System Type- fibrous roots
- Leaves-ovate to lance-shaped, sometimes toothed, mid-to purplish green leaves, up to 3" long, heart shaped at the bases
- Flower-whorled racemes of flowers, up to 1 ¼" long with upright 2 lobed white upper lips, resemble Snapdragons
- Flowers have lilac to pinkish purple lower lips
- Flowers resemble pagodas
- Good for cutting
- Season of bloom-March through July
- Blooms heavily and dies from frost
- Will regrow if seed falls on bare ground
- Sometimes may hybridize with *C. bartsiiifolia*, *C. multiflora* and *C. tinctoria*, reseeds

Varieties/Cultivars on the Market

- 'Candidissima' –pure white flowers
- 'Multicolor' – flowers marked white, lilac, and purplish pink
- var. *austromontana* (CA)-native
- var. *heterophylla*(IL and KT)-native



Propagation Methods

- Seed- sow directly into soil, do not cover
- No seed dormancy
- Germination
Experiment- 2 of 24 germinated



Crop ideotype

- Sweet Fragrance
- Long Season of Bloom
- Winter Hardy
- Easy Seed Germination or Vegetative Production
- Color Variation in flowers
- Shorter Production Schedule
- Definition in plant habit-erect/spreading

Market Niche

- Target Sales Date-Mother's Day, May 15, throughout the growing season
- Could this be forced year round- yes it has a long bloom time
- Crops with which this will compete in the market- Snapdragons, Petunias
- Attracts butterflies, for the front of flower beds, under trees or as a bulb cover, rock garden plant-tolerates dry soils
- it has the potential to become a major crop
- crop limitations/problems- seed germination
- 2 cultivars are available to customers and some companies are growing it
- On the market already, other breeding could be done easily and quickly-new varieties available within a few years

Cultural Requirements

- Winter Hardiness (USDA Zones): 7-11
- Will only survive cold winter nights that dip to 30° F, needs summer days with high heat, drought tolerant
- Full sun to part shade
- Nutrition-low doses but not required
- Soil-fertile, moist well drained soil but not overwatered, variable pH, will grow in disturbed soils
- Plant growth regulators- none needed
- Container size- 4" pots
- Disease susceptibility-powdery mildew, downey mildew, rust, and white smut
- Fungicides, Insecticides- none used but a preventative fungicide would be helpful

Production Schedule

- 10-14 days to germinate in 70-75°F
- 11 weeks to establish roots and flower buds in 70-75°F temperatures
- 2 weeks to finish crop
- 15 weeks total crop time



<http://plants.usda.gov/>

Genetic Improvement

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THE END



•<http://www.calacademy.org/research/botany/wildflow/names/051811.htm>