## Plant Propagation Protocol for Lathyrus vestitus

ESRM 412 – Native Plant Production Protocol URL: https://courses.washington.edu/esrm412/protocols/LAVE2.pdf



Lathyrus vestitus ©2018, Stacie Wolny<sup>2</sup>

| TAXONOMY                |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| Plant Family            |   |
| Scientific Name         | Fabaceae <sup>1</sup>   |
| Common Name             | Pea Family <sup>1</sup>   |
| Species Scientific Name |   |
| Scientific Name         | Lathyrus vestitus Nutt. <sup>1</sup>  |
| Varieties               |   |
| Sub-species             | Lathyrus vestitus Nutt. ssp. alefeldii (T.G. White) Broich <sup>1</sup>           |
|                         | Lathyrus vestitus Nutt. ssp. bolanderi (S. Watson) C.L. Hitchc. <sup>1</sup>      |
|                         | Lathyrus vestitus Nutt. ssp. laetiflorus (Greene) Broich <sup>1</sup>             |
|                         | Lathyrus vestitus Nutt. ssp. laevicarpus Broich <sup>1</sup>                      |
|                         | Lathyrus vestitus Nutt. ssp. vestitus <sup>1</sup>                                |
| Cultivar                |   |
| Common Synonym(s)       | Lathyrus alefeldii T.G. White <sup>1</sup>  |
|                         | Lathyrus laetiflorus Greene ssp. alefeldii (T.G. White) C.L. Hitchc. <sup>1</sup> |
|                         | Lathyrus laetiflorus Greene var. alefeldii (T.G. White) Jeps. <sup>1</sup>        |

|                      | Lathyrus strictus Nutt. <sup>1</sup>   |
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|                      | Lathyrus vestitus Nutt. var. alefeldii (T.G. White) Isely <sup>1</sup>   |
|                      | Lathyrus bolanderi S. Watson <sup>1</sup>  |
|                      | Lathyrus ochropetalus Piper <sup>1</sup>   |
|                      | Lathyrus peckii Piper <sup>1</sup>   |
|                      | Lathyrus polyphyllus Nutt. var. insecundus Jeps. 1   |
|                      | Lathyrus vestitus Nutt. ssp. ochropetalus (Piper) C.L. Hitchc. 1   |
|                      | Lathyrus vestitus Nutt. var. ochropetalus (Piper) Isely <sup>1</sup>   |
|                      | Lathyrus laetiflorus Greene <sup>1</sup>   |
|                      |  |
|                      | Lathyrus laetiflorus Greene ssp. barbarae (T.G. White) C.L. Hitchc.  |
|                      | Lathyrus laetiflorus Greene ssp. glaber C.L. Hitchc.   |
|                      | Lathyrus strictus Nutt. var. barbarae (T.G. White) Jeps. <sup>1</sup>  |
|                      | Lathyrus strictus Nutt. var. thacherae Jeps. 1   |
|                      | Lathyrus venosus Muhl. ex Willd. var. grandiflorus Torr. 1   |
|                      | Lathyrus violaceus Greene var. barbarae T.G. White <sup>1</sup>  |
|                      | Lathyrus puberulus T.G. White ex Greene <sup>1</sup>   |
|                      | Lathyrus quercetorum A. Heller <sup>1</sup>  |
|                      | Lathyrus vestitus Nutt. ssp. puberulus (T.G. White ex Greene) C.L. Hitchc. <sup>1</sup>  |
|                      | Lathyrus vestitus Nutt. var. vestitus <sup>1</sup>   |
|                      | Lathyrus vestitus Nutt. var. violaceus (Greene) Abrams <sup>1</sup>  |
|                      | Lathyrus violaceus Greene <sup>1</sup>   |
| Common Name(s)       | Pacific pea, Alefeld's pea, Bolander's pea <sup>1</sup>  |
| Species Code (as per | LAVE2 <sup>1</sup>   |
| USDA Plants          |  |
| database)            |  |
|                      | GENERAL INFORMATION  |
| Geographical range   | Washington, Oregon, California <sup>1</sup>  |
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Distribution of *Lathyrus vestitus*<sup>5</sup>

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| Ecological distribution                        | Pacific coastal mountains, from Puget Sound to Baja California <sup>4</sup> , chaparral in southern parts  |
| Climate and elevation range                    | of its range <sup>5</sup> 0 to 1910m, receiving 38-251cm annual precipitation, temperature ranges of 10-33°C <sup>2</sup>  |
| Local habitat and abundance                    | Temperate coniferous forest, pollinated by bees and butterflies <sup>4</sup>   |
| Plant strategy type / successional stage       | Weed <sup>5</sup>  |
| Plant characteristics                          | Perennial herb (forb) <sup>2</sup> , vine <sup>3</sup> up to 3m tall <sup>5</sup> with white to dark red-purple blooms <sup>4</sup> and alternate leaves <sup>3</sup> , morphological variation as one goes south along the West coast <sup>4</sup> , woody rhizomes giving rise to several stems, inflorescence a raceme of 5-16 flowers, leaves paripinnate,7-16 seeds per legume <sup>5</sup>   |
|  | PROPAGATION DETAILS (Container Method)   |
| Ecotype  | n/a  |
| Propagation Goal                               | Plants and/or seeds  |
| Propagation Method                             | Seed <sup>5</sup>  |
| Product Type                                   | Container <sup>5</sup>   |
| Stock Type                                     | n/a  |
| Time to Grow                                   | If using pots, plants sown in autumn are generally ready for outplanting in spring (approximately 6 months). 12*   |
| Target Specifications                          | n/a  |
| Propagule Collection<br>Instructions           | Seed pods may be collected when they become to turn gray and the plant turns yellow, indicating maturity. Seeds may be collected by removing the plant from the site entirely or removing fruiting branches. <sup>7*</sup>   |
| Propagule Processing/Propagule Characteristics | 22.708g per 1000 seeds. <i>Lathyrus</i> seeds are primarily orthodox. <sup>9</sup>   |
| Pre-Planting Propagule Treatments              | Pods or plants may be dried and threshed, either by trampling or beating with a stick. Seeds are more resistant to damage and will remain intact. Seeds are then winnowed, cleaned, and dried for several days before storage. ** Seeds are stored short term at 25% humidity and 4°C. Long term storage is kept at -20°C. **  |

| Growing Area Preparation / Annual Practices for Perennial Crops | Seeds can be planted in rootrainers in seed compost and topped with a layer of vermiculite. Alternatively, seeds can be placed in a large pot 2-3cm apart. 12*   |
|---|--|
| Establishment Phase<br>Details                                  | To incite imbibition, place seeds in airtight container on a layer of moist vermiculite or a damp towel, and sow as soon as seeds swell or sprout. 12* The genus <i>Lathyrus</i> typically has a germination rate of >90%. 8*  |
| Length of Establishment Phase                                   | Specific information not found. Seeds should germinate within the season. <sup>7*</sup>  |
| Active Growth Phase   | Plants require shade or partial shade. <sup>3</sup> If sown in pots or rootrainers, seedlings can be transferred to larger pots (at least 9cm) once they reach 3.5 cm tall. <sup>12*</sup> Lathyrus vestitus requires physical support in order to climb. <sup>5</sup> Once seedlings reach 10cm, removal of the tip of the shoot can promote branching. <sup>12*</sup>  |
| Length of Active<br>Growth Phase                                | Specific information not found. Growing season lasts 3-12 months. <sup>2</sup>   |
| Hardening Phase   | Keep outside during day for one week, then keep outside during day and night for second week. 12*  If seeking to keep plant green during winter, shelter and frost protection are advisable.  Stems can be cut down when side shoots develop in winter. 5  |
| Length of Hardening<br>Phase                                    | 10-14 days   |
| Harvesting, Storage and Shipping                                | If propagating for seed, seed can be collected as described in "Propagule Collection Instructions."  |
| Length of Storage   | If sown in autumn, keep in cold greenhouse until transplanting in spring. 12*  |
| Guidelines for Outplanting / Performance on Typical Sites       | Provide compost or manure and the amount of general-purpose fertilizer recommended on the package. Space plants 20-30cm apart. Water plants thoroughly before and after transplanting. 12*  Hardy roots can survive in poor soils, including heavy clays, and require few production inputs due to high rates of nitrogen fixation. <i>Lathyrus</i> is quite disease resistant compared to other legumes. 10*  Plants typically flower between March and June. 5   |
| Other Comments  | *These sources may not be completely applicable to the species <i>Lathyrus vestitus</i> . Sources 8, 10, 11, and 12 all speak generally on the <i>Lathyrus</i> genus, and sources 6 and 7 describe closely related species within the genus. However, source 5 indicates that germination in <i>Lathyrus vestitus</i> is achieved in the same way as other <i>Lathyrus</i> species.  It is inadvisable to consume peas from the <i>Lathyrus</i> genus due to presence of the ODAP neurotoxin, which can cause a paralysis known as lathyrism. Research is being done on how to safely consume peas from the <i>Lathyrus</i> genus. Because the <i>Lathyrus</i> genus is not typically commercially propagated, there are few regulations on obtaining and cultivating seeds. |
|   | PROPAGATION DETAILS (Direct Sowing Method)   |
| Ecotype   | n/a  |
| Propagation Goal  | Plants, nitrogen fixing roots <sup>7*</sup> , and/or seeds   |
| Propagation Method  | Seed <sup>5</sup>  |
| Product Type  | Seed <sup>10*</sup>  |

| Stock Type             | n/a  |
|------------------------|--|
| Time to Grow           | 12-14 weeks (if sown in spring) 12*  |
| Target Specifications  | n/a  |
| Propagule Collection   | Seed pods may be collected when they become to turn gray and the plant turns yellow,   |
| Instructions           | indicating maturity. Seeds may be collected by removing the plant from the site entirely or  |
| mstraetions            | removing fruiting branches. <sup>7*</sup>  |
| Propagule              | 22.708g per 1000 seeds. <i>Lathyrus</i> seeds are primarily orthodox. <sup>9</sup>   |
| Processing/Propagule   | 22.77 cog per 1000 becas. Eastly 7 tils becas are primarily entiredent   |
| Characteristics        |  |
| Pre-Planting Propagule | Pods or plants may be dried and threshed, either by trampling or beating with a stick. Seeds   |
| Treatments             | are more resistant to damage and will remain intact. Seeds are then winnowed, cleaned, and   |
|                        | dried for several days before storage. 7* Seeds are stored short term at 25% humidity and  |
|                        | 4°C. Long term storage is kept at -20°C.8* To incite imbibition, place seeds in airtight   |
|                        | container on a layer of moist vermiculite or a damp towel, and sow as soon as seeds swell or   |
|                        | sprout. <sup>12*</sup>   |
| Growing Area           | Sow in spring or autumn. 12* Seeds of <i>Lathyrus</i> species can germinate underground and are  |
| Preparation / Annual   | sometimes mixed with cow dung before sowing. <sup>7*</sup> They can be tolerant of both drought and  |
| Practices for          | flooding. In South Asia, seeds are distributed in standing water. 10*  |
| Perennial Crops        |  |
| Establishment Phase    | The genus <i>Lathyrus</i> typically has a germination rate of >90%. 8*   |
| Details                |  |
| Length of              | Specific information not found. Seeds should germinate within the season. <sup>7*</sup>  |
| Establishment Phase    |  |
| Active Growth Phase    | Lathyrus vestitus requires physical support in order to climb. 5 Once seedlings reach 10cm,  |
|                        | removal of the tip of the shoot can promote branching. 12*   |
| Length of Active       | Specific information not found. Growing season lasts 3-12 months. <sup>2</sup>   |
| Growth Phase           |  |
| Hardening Phase        | Stems will die during non-growing season, leaving rhizomes behind. <sup>11*</sup>  |
| Length of Hardening    | n/a  |
| Phase                  |  |
| Harvesting, Storage    | If propagating for seed, seed can be collected as described in "Propagule Collection   |
| and Shipping           | Instructions."   |
| Length of Storage      | n/a  |
| Guidelines for         | Hardy roots can survive in poor soils, including heavy clays, and require few production   |
| Outplanting /          | inputs due to high rates of nitrogen fixation. <i>Lathyrus</i> is quite disease resistant compared to  |
| Performance on         | other legumes. 10*   |
| Typical Sites          | Plants typically flower between March and June. <sup>5</sup> If seeds are sown in spring, they should  |
| 0.1 0                  | flower in 12-14 weeks. 12*   |
| Other Comments         | *These sources may not be completely applicable to the species <i>Lathyrus vestitus</i> . Sources  |
|                        | 8, 10, 11, and 12 all speak generally on the <i>Lathyrus</i> genus, and sources 6 and 7 describe   |
|                        | closely related species within the genus. However, source 5 indicates that germination in  |
|                        | Lathyrus vestitus is achieved in the same way as other Lathyrus species.   |
|                        | It is inadvisable to consume peas from the <i>Lathyrus</i> genus due to presence of the ODAP   |
|                        | <b>neurotoxin, which can cause a paralysis known as lathyrism.</b> Research is being done on how to safely consume peas from the <i>Lathyrus</i> genus. 10 |
|                        | now to safety consume peas from the Lamyrus genus.   |

| Because the <i>Lathyrus</i> genus is not typically commercially propagated, there are few |
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| regulations on obtaining and cultivating seeds. <sup>8</sup>                              |

| INFORMATION SOURCES |  |
|---------------------|--|
| References          | <sup>1</sup> Kartesz, J. T. (n.d.). Lathyrus vestitus Nutt. Pacific pea. Retrieved April 18, 2020, from  |
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|                     | <u> </u>   |
| Protocol Author     | Maria Rottersman   |

| Date Protocol | June 4, 2020 |
|---------------|--------------|
| Created or    |              |
| Updated       |              |