

Scientific name: Cleome serrulata, Peritoma serrulata

Common name(s): Rocky Mountain Bee Plant

Family: Capparaceae (Caper)

Native: CO, West, Midwest

Habitat: Prairie, open woods

This stout and showy annual mixes well with annual and perennial Sunflowers (*Helianthus spp.*); plant as a backdrop to other low-water perennials, smaller shrubs and cacti. Nectar-rich flowers attract bees, butterflies and moths day and night, and the plant is a larval host for the Checkered White butterfly. The flowers are self-pollinating, and plants produce lots of seeds that provide winter forage for doves and other ground-feeding birds.

**Plant type:** Annual (reseeds)

**Elevation:** Native range to 9000'

**USDA Hardiness Zone:** N/A

**Exposure:** Full sun, part sun

**Soil:** Adaptable; well-drained (prefers sandy)

Moisture: Moderate, low, dry

Flower color: Pink shades, lavender

**Bloom time:** Mid summer to early fall (hard frost)

Mature size (height x width): 3-5'(+ if high H2O) x 2-3'



**Propagation:** Direct sow seeds in the garden in fall to late winter. If seeds are cold stratified in the fridge, radicles emerge in 3 weeks.





