Easily distinguishable from others in the Beardtongue family by its early bloom time and “hairy” stems, this trumpet-shaped flower is also named for its yellow stamen or “tongue” which is emblematic of this family.

### Characteristics

| Height: 2 feet |
| Spread: 10-12 inches |
| Bloom time: May-June |
| Bloom color: Purple and white |

### Attributes

- Erect, hairy-stemmed plant with open, stalked clusters of lavender trumpet-shaped flowers with white lips
- One of the larval host plants of the Baltimore Checkerspot butterfly
- Attracts hummingbirds, songbirds, butterflies, and bumblebees
- Deer resistant

### Growing and Maintenance

- Soil requirements: Thin, well-drained soils
- Light requirements: Sun, part sun, or shade
- Water requirements: Low to moderate
- A versatile plant that thrives in a variety of conditions and requires little maintenance
- Its compact size, blooms, and versatility make it an ideal choice for front yard flower beds, meadows, and borders

### Native Range

- Native range throughout the northeastern half of the United States
- Found in dry woods and prairies, rocky fields, and bluffs

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*Penstemon hirsutus*

Hairy Beardtongue

References listed at www.blackswamp.org/factsheetreferences/