

SHOOTING STAR Dodecatheon meadia

A graceful, beautiful plant that is a striking addition to the shade garden. Also called American cowslip, Johnny-jump



Description: A hardy perennial with delicate white to pink petals surrounded by a yellow and red center. The rocket-shaped blooms actually give the appearance of a shooting star. The lush green foliage makes a perfect background for the striking flowers. A spring bloomer, it makes its appearance while most other flowers are just waking from their winter slumbers. Flowers April-June.

Natural Habitat: Open woods and glades, rocky wooded slopes, bluff ledges, meadows and prairies.

Size: 9-18" high

Growth Rate: Slow

Light: Part-full shade

Planting and Care: Grow in average, medium wet, well-drained soil in part shade to full shade. Prefers moist, loamy soils in part shade. Avoid poorly-drained, wet soils, particularly in winter.

Ornamental Value: Showy flowers

Landscape Value: As a woodland species, shooting star is invaluable for naturalizing effects. Ideally, the plants should be grown in masses as under story plantings, along the woodland border, or in small clusters.