

# Physostegia virginiana

## ‘Miss Manners’

**North American Native Cultivar**



**Physostegia** (fie-*so*-stee-gee-a)  
From the Greek for “bladder covering” referring to the inflated appearance of the flowers.

**virginiana** (vir-jin-ee-ah-na)  
meaning “of Virginia” referring to the location where it was first found and studied.



**Zones:** 4 – 8  
**Flower Color:** White  
**Height:** 2’ **Spacing:** 18”



‘Miss Manners’ has graduated from the horticultural school of etiquette. With its clumping habit it will stay where you plant it, not run for the hills. It is 2’ high and 2-3’ wide with a moderate growth rate. The spikes of flowers are pure white. If the first flush of flowers is cut back, there should be additional flowering. ‘Miss Manners’ is a good nectar source for butterflies and other pollinators. A light summer mulch will help retain soil moisture that during dry spells and will keep the roots cool.

### About the Species:

**Common Name:** Obedient Plant, False Dragonhead

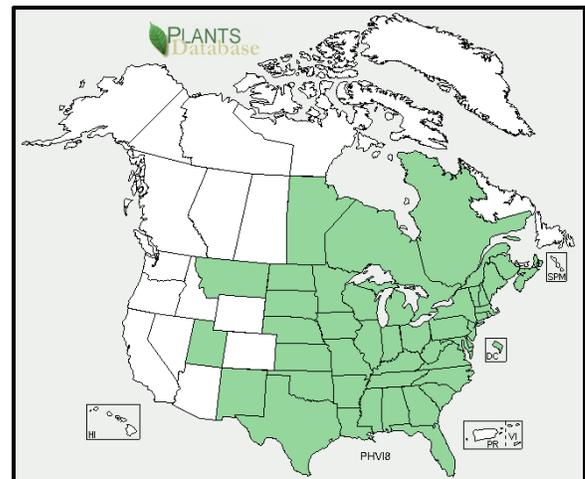
**Family:** Lamiaceae

The snapdragon-like flower will bloom from June to September on the square stems that are typical of the mint family. The flower head is composed of vertical rows of individual flowers. If the flowers are pushed to one side or the other, they will tend to stay in that position for a while as if they were hinged, explaining the common name of Obedient Plant. False Dragonhead refers to the shape of the flowers that are suggestive of Dragonhead (*Dracocephalum*).

**Habitat:** Found in moist soils of prairies, stream banks, gravel bars, swamps, ditches, seepages, bogs, pine savannas, and thickets.

#### Obedient Dragons.

Are the flowers shaped like dragonheads or are the individual flowers on the stalk obedient to where you push them? *Physostegia virginiana* are both. However, Obedient Plant was not obedient to staying in the planted area, until ‘Miss Manners’ came along. She will stay where you put her. ‘Miss Manners’ was selected by Darrell Probst in the late 1990’s.



USDA Plants Database

**In the Garden:** Easy to grow in average to wet, well-drained soils in full sun, avoid too much fertilizer or they may flop and will need staking. *Physostegia virginiana* attracts Hummingbirds and is deer resistant. It is excellent as a cut flower, good for a wildflower garden or native plant garden or planted in a prairie or meadow.

# Physostegia virginiana 'Vivid'

*North American Native Cultivar*



**Physostegia**  
(fie-so-stee-gee-a)  
From the Greek for  
“bladder covering”  
referring to the inflated  
appearance of the flowers.

**virginiana**  
(vir-jin-ee-ah-na) meaning  
“of Virginia” referring to  
the location where it was  
first found and studied.

**Zones:** 4 – 8  
**Flower Color:** Pink  
**Height:** 2 – 3' **Spacing:** 18"



**'Vivid'** has the same rapid growth habit as the straight species, with bright pink flowers attractive to hummingbirds. This is an excellent plant for naturalizing in a wildflower garden, native plant garden, prairie or meadow. It is 2-3' tall and it is very compact and upright.

## About the Species:

**Common Name:** Obedient Plant, False Dragonhead

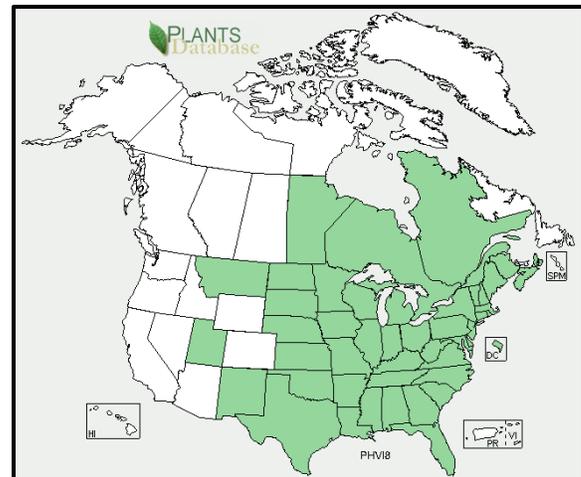
**Family:** Lamiaceae

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**Habitat:** Found in moist soils of prairies, stream banks, gravel bars, swamps, ditches, seepages, bogs, pine savannas, and thickets.

### Obedient Dragons.

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USDA Plants Database

**In the Garden:** Easy to grow in average to wet, well-drained soils in full sun, avoid too much fertilizer or they may flop and will need staking. *Physostegia virginiana* attracts Hummingbirds and is deer resistant. It is excellent as a cut flower, good for a wildflower garden or native plant garden or planted in a prairie or meadow.