Prince’s Plume in the Landscape

*Heidi Kratsch*, Extension Ornamental Horticulture Specialist  
*Graham Hunter*, Research Associate, Center for Water Efficient Landscaping

**Stanleya pinnata**

Prince’s Plume

**Description:** Extremely drought-tolerant perennial to 5 feet, tall with a large mound of coarse foliage at the base and tall plumes of lemon yellow flowers in summer. This species occurs naturally throughout the interior West and plains states. Though small, the flowers are numerous and open progressively towards the tip of the stalk; the effect in the landscape is quite spectacular.

![Photo credit: Graham Hunter](image)

**Cultural Requirements:**

- **Native habitat**
  - Valleys and foothills; talus slopes at elevations from 3,000 to 9,000 feet
- **Soil**
  - Thrives in poor, dry, sandy soil; use gravel mulch
- **Cold Tolerance**
  - Zones 4 - 8
- **Drought Tolerance**
  - High
- **Salt Tolerance**
  - Moderate
- **Sun/Shade Preference**
  - Full sun
- **Propagation**
  - From seed and division
- **Maintenance**
  - Requires good drainage, and low fertility soils; water sparingly once established
- **Problems**
  - Toxic to livestock
Propagation

Cold-stratify seed for up to 90 days. Sow seed to a depth of ¼” in a well drained, peat-based soil-less substrate. Transplant seedlings to individual pots as soon as roots are established and growing.

Additional Photos
Photo credits: Heidi Kratsch

References


This fact sheet belongs to a series of fact sheets about Intermountain West native trees, shrubs, perennials, and grasses called “Native Plants in the Landscape.” Look for others in the series by visiting http://extension.usu.edu/htm/publications, then clicking on ‘Horticulture’ and ‘Native Plants’.

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