

September Plant of the Month: Turtlehead



Turtlehead, *Chelone spp.*, is a late summer blooming Georgia native. It has pretty pink and purple flowers that will bloom for four weeks or more. Turtlehead loves wet and mucky soil. This plant is perfect for wet areas in your garden or for a bog garden.

Growth Habit: Turtlehead is an upright perennial with rounded stems and deep green, boldly veined leaves, on short stalks. It can grow to be 3 feet tall by 3 feet wide. The flowers are pink or purple and continue to bloom throughout the late summer.

Landscape Merit and Use: Since it is a Georgia native, turtlehead makes a great plant for your garden. Its upright growth makes it perfect for any perennial garden or as a border plant. Turtlehead blooms continuously from late summer to early fall.

Growing Conditions: Turtlehead prefers partial shade with moist soil. However, it will bloom in dense shade or sun as long as the soil is moist.

Care: Turtlehead is a relatively low-maintenance plant. Deadhead (pinch off dead flowers) to keep the plants producing new blooms.