



Makin, Julie Burlington, Ontario 2011

## Hairy Beardtongue *Penstemon hirsutus*

- 1-3 ft tall: winter-dormant perennial; native: NJ & the northeast
- Ornamental, light purple flower heads June-July
- Dry to moist well-drained soil, sun to part shade,
- Attracts hummingbirds and native pollinators
- Host plant for Baltimore Checkerspot and other caterpillars
- Tolerates drought and deer
- Species can be identified by its woolly stem
- Easy from seed, collect seed capsules when tan July – August
- Allow seed capsules to dry, then crush and shake out seeds
- Store seeds cold and dry to maintain dormancy
- Small seeds, press into moist soil surface, do not cover with soil
- Outdoors all winter, or 8 weeks moist at 40°F to break dormancy
- Move to 70°F with light, indoors or outdoors in spring, to germinate