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|  | <u>Evergreens Trees</u> |  | <u>Vines</u> |
|  | <u>Evergreen Shrubs</u> |  | <u>Ferns</u> |
|  | <u>Deciduous Trees</u> |  | <u>Perennials</u> |
|  | <u>Deciduous Shrubs</u> |  | <u>Wetland Plants</u> |
|  | <u>Ground Covers</u> |  | <u>Shore Plants</u> |

Plant Information

These sites provide specific information about plants in general, not just west coast native plants. Note that because the same “common” name can apply to more than one plant species, it is always better to search using the botanical name (scientific/binomial/latin name) if you have it. All of these will also accept partial names and will make good guesses about misspellings.

Wikipedia

<https://en.wikipedia.org>

You can find information on virtually any plant on Wikipedia. Articles range from highly detailed to sparse. The detailed articles will give extensive descriptions of the plant, including leaves, stems, flowers, seeds and roots. Origins and distribution may be listed. Cultivars and related species may appear. Wikipedia is usually my first choice when looking for plant information.

Dicentra formosa

Article Talk

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Dicentra formosa (western, wild or Pacific bleeding heart) is a species of flowering plant in the poppy family, Papaveraceae (subfamily: Fumarioideae). With its fern-like foliage and inflorescence of drooping pink, purple, yellow or cream "hearts", this species is native to the United States' Pacific Northwest and West Coast of North America.^[RS&B]

Description [edit]

Pacific bleeding heart is a **perennial herbaceous plant**. Its **leaves** are three to four times divided and fern-like, growing from a brittle **rhizome** at the base of the plant. It grows to 18 in (45 cm) tall by 24 in (60 cm) wide.^[RT2016]

The **flowers** are pink, red, or white and heart-shaped and bloom in clusters of 5 to 15 at the top of leafless, fleshy stems above the leaves from mid-spring to autumn, with peak flowering in spring. The four **petals** are attached at the base. The two outer petals form a pouch at the base and curve outwards at the tips. The two inner petals are perpendicular to the pouch and connected at the tip.^[RT7] There are two tiny, pointed **sepals** behind the petals. **Seeds** are borne in plump, pointed pods. The plant self-seeds readily. It frequently goes **dormant** for the summer after flowering, emerging and flowering again in autumn.^[R&B&B]

The species contains **isquinoline**, a toxic alkaloid known to be fatal to cattle.^[RT]

The Pacific bleeding heart is frequently confused with the fringed bleeding heart (*Dicentra formosa*)^[1] and sold under that name. The fringed bleeding heart has narrower flowers and longer, more curved outer petal tips. *D. formosa* is related to *Lamprocapnos spectabilis*, another popular plant called "bleeding heart", which was formerly placed in the same genus.

Flowers and leaves



Scientific classification

Kingdom: Plantae

Clade: Tracheophytes

Clade: Angiosperms

Clade: Eudicots

Order: Ranunculales

Family: Papaveraceae

Genus: *Dicentra*

Species: *D. formosa*

Binomial name

Dicentra formosa

(Andrew Wood) 1821

Kwantlen Polytechnic University Plant Database

<https://plantdatabase.kpu.ca/>

Located in Surrey, BC, Kwantlen Polytechnic University’s School of Horticulture maintains an online plant database of over 1,500 plant species. In addition to being able to search by common or botanical name, the database provides a detailed search engine with 28 filters, including morphological features. The information on each plant in the database is extensive, with detailed descriptions of the whole plant, including habit and form, height and width, growth rate, hardiness, exposure and soil requirements and landscape uses. The detail continues for the leaves, flowers, fruit and stem or bark.

School of Horticulture Plant Database

All Plants Map Plants by Category Resources Copyright

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Scientific Name: *Dicentra formosa*

Pronunciation: dy-SEN-truh for-MO-uh

Common Name: Pacific bleeding heart

Family Name: Papaveraceae

Plant Type: Herbaceous perennial

Key ID Features: Leaves 3-4 times divided, tip segments linear to oblong, pointed; inflorescence of 5-15 flowers in a drooping panicle; pinkish-purple; capsules pod-like, 2-3.5cm long x 3-4mm wide with shiny black seeds about 2mm long with scarification for dispersal.

Habit: Spreading

Form: Moist

Texture: Medium - fine

Mature Height: 0.2 - 0.4m

Mature Spread: 0.6 - 1.0m

Growth Rate: Moderate

Origin: B.C. west of Cascades, U.S. - northwest, U.S. - southwest

Hardiness Rating: Zone 4 (-34 to -29 °C)

Exposure: Part sun/part shade, filtered shade

Soil/Drainage Medium: Spring interest, woodland margin

Landscape Uses: [Google](#) Cultivars shown may include [D. 'Shard Boathouse'](#)

Additional Info:

Leaf Morphology: **Dissect**

Form: Dissected, Compound

Arrangement: Basal

Texture/Inven: Soft flexible, Pinnate venation

Surface: Glabrous

Compound Leaf: Bipinnate

Colour in Summer: Green, *Dicentra formosa* 'Ivory Hearts' has heart shaped, ivory white flowers held above fern, blue gray foliage, slightly fragrant.

Colour in Fall: Brown

Shape: Oval

Apices: Acute



Margins: Denticate, Incised

Inflorescence Type: Flowers perfect

Flower Morphology: 4

Number of Petals: 4

Corolla Shape: Urceolate



Gardenia

<https://www.gardenia.net/>

This commercial site contains another extensive database with plants from all over the world. Type the plant name, common or botanical, in the search bar at the top of the page and you will be presented with a list of matches, including cultivars. The results come in both narrative and chart forms.

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Common Name Botanical Name

Dicentra formosa 'Ivory Hearts' (Pacific Bleeding Heart)

Dicentra formosa (Pacific Bleeding Heart)

Dicentra formosa 'Barbours' (Pacific Bleeding Heart)

dicentra formosa


Dicentra formosa 'Ivory Hearts' (Pacific Bleeding Heart)

Dicentra formosa (Pacific Bleeding Heart)

Dicentra formosa 'Barbours' (Pacific Bleeding Heart)

Dicentra formosa (Pacific Bleeding Heart)

Pacific Bleeding Heart, Pacific Bleedinghearts, Western Bleedingheart, Wild Bleeding Heart, Western Fringed Bleeding Heart, Oregon Bleeding Heart



Native to western North America, *Dicentra formosa* (Pacific Bleeding Heart) is a wide-spreading rhizomatous perennial adorned with a gray-green, finely divided foliage and short racemes of nodding, heart-shaped, pink flowers fringed with lavender. Up to 10 flowers occur on a branched inflorescence. Blooming from spring to mid-summer, the flowers dangle gracefully above the lush foliage mound. Flowering will stop in the heat of the summer and may start again in late summer to early fall. A reliable performer that is excellent for rock gardens or as a groundcover.

- Grows up to 12/18 in. tall (30-45 cm) and 24-36 in. wide (60-90 cm). Will self-seed readily and spread by rhizomes to form colonies.
- Thrives in **part shade** and is easily grown in **fertile, humus-rich, neutral or slightly alkaline, moist, well-drained soils**. It can be grown in **full sun** in the coolest part of its range provided the soil is kept consistently moist.
- Great for **beds and borders, cottage gardens, rock gardens, underplanting shrubs** or as a **groundcover**.
- No serious pest or disease issues. Keep an eye out for slugs and snails. Deer and rabbit resistant.
- Propagate by division in early spring or after the leaves have died down. Propagate by seed, sowing seeds as soon as ripe or in spring.
- If sown, all parts may cause stomach upset; the foliage may aggravate skin allergies. Wear gloves and other protective equipment when handling. Bleeding Heart plants are not only toxic to humans but to animals as well. Although aesthetically pleasing, this plant contains sanguinaria alkaloids. Alkaloids negatively affect animals, most commonly cause sleep, and dizziness.

View 27 Images of Dicentra formosa (Pacific Bleeding Heart) | Compare All Dicentra

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Requirements

Hardiness: 3 - 9 What's my Zone?

Heat Zones: 1 - 8 What's my Zone?

Climate Zones: 1, 1A, 1B, 2, 2A, 2B, 3, 3A, 3B, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 1A, 1B, 1C, 1D, 1E, 1F, 2, 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 2I, 2J, 2K, 2L, 2M, 2N, 2O, 2P, 2Q, 2R, 2S, 2T, 2U, 2V, 2W, 2X, 2Y, 2Z, 3, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 3E, 3F, 3G, 3H, 3I, 3J, 3K, 3L, 3M, 3N, 3O, 3P, 3Q, 3R, 3S, 3T, 3U, 3V, 3W, 3X, 3Y, 3Z, 4, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E, 4F, 4G, 4H, 4I, 4J, 4K, 4L, 4M, 4N, 4O, 4P, 4Q, 4R, 4S, 4T, 4U, 4V, 4W, 4X, 4Y, 4Z, 5, 5A, 5B, 5C, 5D, 5E, 5F, 5G, 5H, 5I, 5J, 5K, 5L, 5M, 5N, 5O, 5P, 5Q, 5R, 5S, 5T, 5U, 5V, 5W, 5X, 5Y, 5Z, 6, 6A, 6B, 6C, 6D, 6E, 6F, 6G, 6H, 6I, 6J, 6K, 6L, 6M, 6N, 6O, 6P, 6Q, 6R, 6S, 6T, 6U, 6V, 6W, 6X, 6Y, 6Z, 7, 7A, 7B, 7C, 7D, 7E, 7F, 7G, 7H, 7I, 7J, 7K, 7L, 7M, 7N, 7O, 7P, 7Q, 7R, 7S, 7T, 7U, 7V, 7W, 7X, 7Y, 7Z, 8, 8A, 8B, 8C, 8D, 8E, 8F, 8G, 8H, 8I, 8J, 8K, 8L, 8M, 8N, 8O, 8P, 8Q, 8R, 8S, 8T, 8U, 8V, 8W, 8X, 8Y, 8Z, 9, 9A, 9B, 9C, 9D, 9E, 9F, 9G, 9H, 9I, 9J, 9K, 9L, 9M, 9N, 9O, 9P, 9Q, 9R, 9S, 9T, 9U, 9V, 9W, 9X, 9Y, 9Z

Plant Type: Perennials

Plant Family: Papaveraceae

Genus: *Dicentra*

Common name: *Bleeding Heart*

Exposure: Partial Sun

Season of Interest: Spring (Mid, Late), Summer (Early, Mid)

Height: 1' - 2' (30cm - 60cm)

Spread: 2' - 3' (60cm - 90cm)

Spacing: 24" - 36" (60cm - 90cm)

Maintenance: Low

Water Needs: Average

Soil Type: Chalk, Clay, Loam

Soil pH: Alkaline, Neutral

Soil Drainage: Moist but Well-Drained

Characteristics: Cool Flowers, Shady

Native Plants: United States, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, New Jersey