

foxglove beardstongue *Penstemon digitalis*

Kingdom: Plantae

Phylum: Magnoliophyta

Class: Magnoliopsida

Order: Scrophulariales

Family: Scrophulariaceae

ILLINOIS STATUS common, native

FEATURES

This plant grows to one to three feet in height. Leaves are opposite, and the base of the leaf clasps the stem. A leaf may be six inches long and two and one-half inches wide. Flower stalks arise in pairs from the base of the upper leaves. A member of the snapdragon family, this plant has white, tube-shaped flowers that have an upper two-lobed lip and a lower three-lobed lip. The name “beardstongue” was given because of the presence of a sterile, fuzzy stamen that looks like a beard.

BEHAVIORS

Foxglove beardstongue is found in woods and thickets statewide. It blooms from May through July.

HABITATS

Aquatic Habitats

none

Woodland Habitats

upland deciduous forests

Prairie and Edge Habitats

edge

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