

# History & Fun Facts

All of the plants we sell are native to the Ohio area. That means they are adapted and ready to be a beautiful, worry free, addition to your yard!



Royal Catchfly is a member of the carnation family. Its red color is native flowers because many insects cannot detect this color, but certain butterflies and hummingbirds can detect the flower and pollinate it. While this plant is native to the prairies of the American Midwest, it is becoming increasingly rare due to extirpation from agricultural removal. It is even considered endangered in other states. However, this lovely flower is relatively easy to grow and maintain and will make a beautiful addition to your garden.



## PPGSA

The Plant Pathology Graduate Student Association (PPGSA) is a non-profit organization. Funding of the activities are provided through volunteer-based activities, such as charities. PPGSA is not an official part of the Ohio State University, but will nonetheless respect many of the bylaws laid forth by the Council of Graduate Students (CGS) when appropriate. These fliers are brought to you by our Outreach Committee. The main function of this committee is to both create a greater student awareness and understanding of plant pathology in order to broaden the numbers of future plant pathologists in our department and across the country as well as to increase community awareness of the general nature of plant pathology.



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AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

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Dept. of Plant Pathology

# Royal Catchfly



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# Common Problems

It is important to know the common problems different plants in your garden may experience so that you can better manage the issues and ensure your plants are providing the ascetics you desire.

Royal Catchfly is not particularly susceptible to any certain insects or other pathogens. Keeping the plants evenly spaced in a sunny area that is well-drained will help to limit any opportunistic fungi.

This plant is susceptible to drought. Long periods without rainfall will results in yellowing and dropping of leaves. If you experience a long period without rainfall, be sure to provide additional water to your Royal Catchfly.



## Plant Requirements and Description

**Mature Height and Spread:**  
*2-3 feet tall*

**Growth Rate:**  
*Moderate to Slow*

**Light Requirement:**  
*Full Sun or partial sun*

**Other Requirements:**  
*Moist to slightly dry soil*

### Description:

Expect these plants to bloom in mid to late summer, with the bloom lasting one month. This plant has a taproot system with small rhizomes, so it will form small colonies when its seeds drop. Royal catchfly will show blooms when they are small, but allowing them to grow for several years will improve their appearance and produce larger plants.

Large butterflies and hummingbird are attracted to these flowers, so keep your cameras at the ready!

### Management

- Keep plants well-spaced & weed free. Spacing helps reduce humidity in the foliage which prevent fugal growth.
- Planting plants in a sunny location. In addition, to photosynthetic health of your flowers, this also helps dry out any moisture and prevent fungal growth.
- Provide additional water to plants in periods of drought
- Water the plants from the bottom. Watering plants from the bottom is a wise practice no matter the plant. This prevents excess moisture on the leaves which can lead to fungal growth or scotching from the sun.
- Remove any & all infected plant parts. Make sure not to compost any infected plant parts as the fungal spores can be spread by wind or water.

## Sources

- [http://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/USDA Plant Guide \(http://plants.usda.gov/\)](http://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/USDA%20Plant%20Guide)
- Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center (<http://www.wildflower.org/>)
- David J Huth ([davidjhuth.com](http://davidjhuth.com))
- University of Illinois Extension HortAnswers (<http://urbanext.illinois.edu/>)
- Fine Gardening (<http://www.finegardening.com/>)

