

Fireweed:

Chamerion angustifolium (L.) Holub



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Cultivation: The preference is full or partial sun, moist conditions, and cool to warm temperatures. This plant becomes dormant during hot summer weather. The soil should contain abundant organic matter, with or without sand. A low pH is tolerated, if not preferred. This plant is fairly easy to grow, even under conditions that are not entirely suitable for it, but it has difficulty competing with plants that are better adapted to hot, dry summer weather. Foliar disease is not troublesome; however, the stems are easily broken. In warmer areas with a long growing season, Fireweed will bloom during early summer, while in cooler, boreal areas, it tends to bloom later in the summer. Habitats include moist sedge meadows, woodland borders, damp ravines, sandy marshes near dunes, remnant bogs, and areas where trees and brush have been removed by fire

Plant Structure: This native perennial plant is 2-5' tall, and is either unbranched or sparsely branched. The willow-like hairless leaves are up to 5" long and $\frac{3}{4}$ " across. These flowers range in color from pink to magenta, depending on the local ecotype.

