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Nodding Onion

English

Alliaum cernuum

Latin

BLOOM & FRUITS

Clusters of pink or purple flowers hang downwards, giving rise to its name "nodding" onion. Blooms in June to July, and forms seed heads with papery covers that release small black seeds later in the summer.

USE BY PEOPLE & CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE The bulb is often used as a flavourful food seasoning or vegetable to be eaten with other greens, and can also be added to meats and fish for taste. The stems as well as flowers have the onion-like taste and scent.

WILDLIFE VALUE

The flowers provide food for pollinators like hummingbirds, indigenous bees, and butterflies. It is also eaten by animals, the bulbs in the spring a snack for bears, elk, deer and squirrels. Host plant for hairstreak butterfly caterpillars.

CARE INSTRUCTIONS

Drought tolerant, this plant prefers rocky or sandy soils within forests. May go dormant in late summer. Can be propagated by dividing underground bulbs, or by seed (but seeds require a winter cold stratification period). **EXPOSURE**

XX.

MAX HEIGHT

1ft

MOISTURE

Moist to dry

GROWING EASE

Medium

USE VALUE



ATTRACTS





CONTAINER TOLERANCE

High