

Common name Pink Purslane

Latin Name *Claytonia sibirica*
or *Montia sibirica*

Family Name Portulacaceae

This is an introduced annual which originally came from North America. It is quite common from Scotland to Lancashire but otherwise it is quite rare.

It flowers right from April to July, and the seeds ripen from June to August. Although a woodland plant it is very tolerant and will live anywhere from deep shade to sunny spots.



It grows to about 30 cms. The basal leaves are oval and stalked. Flowering stems carry pair of unstalked leaves. The pink, 5 petalled flowers are 15 to 20 mm across.

How it is eaten

The leaves can be eaten either raw in a salad or as a cooked vegetable, they have a fairly bland flavour.

How it was used in the past

One of the interesting uses was as an antidandruff wash for the hair!

Sources

http://www.first-nature.com/flowers/claytonia_sibirica.asp

<http://www.pfaf.org/database/plants.php?Claytonia+sibirica>

<http://www.botanical.com/>