

Botanical Name: Heuchera maxima

Common Name: Island alum root

Type of Plant: dicot: perennial Character evergreen

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape a low, clumping plant, with round leaves arising from a  
basal rhizome to form a rounded moundlike clump; plant is larger in form than  
Coral Bells (Heuchera sanguinea)

Height 6" - 18" Spread 12" - 24" Growth Rate slow

Environment:

Exposure outdoors tolerates full sun along the coast; requires partial sun  
habitats at inland locations

Soil prefers moist soils; is drought-tolerant near the coast

Hardiness hardy (zones 15-24): prefers mild shaded foothill locations

Morphology:

Leaves palmate, round or heart-shaped, with scalloped-lobed  
margins; medium-dark green, 2"-3" across, arising on slender petioles from the  
basal rhizome

Flowers white to pale pink, tubular, on slender stalks (racemes),  
1'-3' long which arise above the foliage; February through May

Fruit a tiny capsule

Propagation: seed, or division of the clump

Usage: an attractive facer, herbaceous border or low filler for

partial sun or shaded locations, valued for the distinctive round foliage and

profusion of tiny flowers; best used in woodland or temperate-climate landscape  
themes; rock gardens, container plantings

Landscape Care:

Watering prefers frequent, but it quite drought-tolerant in shaded  
locations

Fertilizing little required after establishment

Pruning none required; older clumps may be divided and then  
replanted for denser form

Pests/Diseases snails and slugs if grown in wet habitat

Special Conditions mass-plant for most dramatic effect  
foothills of Channel

Origin: Islands of California

Family: Saxifragaceae