







Persicaria Field Evaluation Report

July 18, 2001




Judges: Greg Graves, Lorene Edwards Forkner, Marietta O'Byrne, Ernie O'Byrne, Grace Dinsdale, Dan Hinkley, Alex LaVilla, Carl Elliott
 Notes: Evaluations took place at Heronswood Nursery in Kingston, WA

Taxa	GPP	Habit	Foliage	Flower	Comments	Image
acuminatum seedling		Good tight growth habit		Chubby deep red blooms		
amplexicaulis		Potentially floppy	Mid green	Bright-red to purple, or white		
amplexicaulis 'Album'		Upright	Flat green pointed foliage	Pure white, from August-October		
amplexicaulis v. pendula		Upright tight clump		Variable: apricot to red	Wild-collected seedlings	
amplexicaulis 'Rosea'				Soft pink, mid-to-late summer on 2.5' stems		

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'Compton's'		Clumping upright to 2.5' x 2.5'	Silver and deep-purple chevron highlights			
<i>cuspidatum</i> 'Crimson Beauty'		Huge			Doesn't bloom in cool NW season	
'Firetail'		Tall, upright to 4' x 4'	Large green with red highlights in sun	Rose-pink bloom		
'Red Dragon'	Promising	Clumping to 6' x 6'	Wine-purple foliage. Markings more pronounced when grown in shade	Small white flowers over a long period		

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'Blotau'		Tighter form	More pointed leaves. Large green quilted leaves	Red bloom	Looks similar to 'Firetail'	
virginiana		Tight mound to 3' x 3'	Mid-green leaves with dark green markings and burgundy band	Pure white, August-October	Seed does not appear to ripen in cooler NW gardens, but further south there are reports of self-sowing	
virginiana 'Painter's Palette'		Small tight mound to 18"	Bright pink jointed stems cloaked in felt leaves, irregularly blotched in various shades of green and white, superimposed over a prominent rusty-red chevron	Pure white, August-October	See species comments	

Marietta O'Byrne notes: I have a hard time with Persicaria amplexicaulis to be included. They are too leafy and potentially floppy for most of the season. Their flowers will not take the general public by storm and they look pretty awful in pots in the nursery. They grow fast and need to be potted on a lot & pruned or will dry out and look really awful. Not a great nursery potential and if they don't look good in pots, the public won't get interested. 'Red Dragon' probably looks the best because of its dark foliage.

Ernie O'Byrne notes: All persicarias are rated down for me for the same reasons given by Marietta except for 'Red Dragon'.