



photo: Dan Jaffe

# WHITE TURTLEHEAD

*Chelone glabra*

This striking perennial has lance-shaped, dark green leaves and white snapdragon-like flowers that resemble turtle heads. Adds late summer charm to shade gardens and is a great accent plant.

## Growing Information

|                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Sunlight           | Part shade        |
| Soil Type          | Moist to wet      |
| Height             | 2–3'              |
| Flowering calendar | August to October |

## Benefits for Wildlife

|         |  |
|---------|--|
| Leaves  | Larval host for 4 species of butterflies and moths |
| Flowers | Attracts a wide variety of pollinators             |
| Fruit   | No   |
| Seeds   | No   |

**Host to 4 caterpillar species:**  
(common names) Turtlehead Borer; Satyr Pug; Verbena Bud Moth; Black Checker

## Benefits for People

- The name is derived from Greek mythology: the nymph Chelone was turned into a turtle for insulting the Gods

## Natural Habitat

- Swampy areas and stream banks

