

Featured Perennial

Gaura lindheimeri – Whirling Butterflies

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Photo Credit: Keith A. Williamson

Botanic name:	<i>Gaura lindheimeri</i>
Common name:	Whirling Butterflies
Height:	24 - 30 inches
Width:	24 - 36
Light:	Sun
Water:	Low
Soil:	Dry to medium, well drained
Growth Habit:	Spreading
How to use:	Center or background for height

The common name 'Whirling Butterflies' describes this plant. The wispy white flowers on long 30" stems appear suspended in the air. Flowering from mid-summer to fall, *Gaura* provides color when other seasonal perennials are not flowering. Growth requirements include being tolerant of hot weather and less water, a definite advantage to Colorado's dry climate. Perennials that will compliment *Gaura* are: *Centanthus ruber* "Red Valerian" and *Penstemon* 'Red Rocks', 'Pike's Peak Purple', 'Bridges' (long stem red) Also available is *Gaura* 'Siskiyou Pink' a cultivar that has short, red stems, 18 to 20 inches long with dark pink flowers. *Gaura* is a great addition for a 'Water Smart' perennial garden.



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