



# The Herb Society of America

## Promising Plants Profiles

### ***Allium schoenoprasum* var. *sibiricum***

**Genus:** *Allium*

**Specific Epithet:** *schoenoprasum*

**Varietas (Variety):** *sibiricum*

**Common Names:** giant chives, Siberian chives, wild chives

**Family:** Alliaceae

**Flower Color:** rose-pink

**Form:** herbaceous perennial

**Hardiness Zone:** 3-9 but best in 6-8

**Height:** can reach 24" with bloom spikes up to 30"

**Soil:** well-drained soil

**Sun:** full sun

**Uses:** culinary, craft, medicinal (limited), ornamental \*

**Parts Used:** bulbs, flowers, leaves



"The original seeds came from Cornell Plantation and Audrey H. O' Connor. This variety has taller leaves, a green stem of greater diameter, and larger, deeper pink flowers than the garden chives. In Germany, large chives are called *Alpenschnittlauch*. 'Fruhlau' is another large cultivar of the large chives. Both the leaves and flowers are excellent for many culinary uses, and the plant puts on a lovely show in the garden. Chives like full sun and are easily grown from seed. In the garden the clumps should be divided every 3 or 4 years. Chives are best in Zones 6-8. In warmer zones they are better grown as an annual." – Dorothy Bonitz, Promising Plants Presentation, 2005

\* Members of the *Allium* genus may be toxic to cats, dogs and certain other mammals if consumed repeatedly or in large quantities.

**Seed Source:** 2005 HSA Seed Exchange

Photo by Dorothy Bonitz

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**Disclaimer:** Profiles are intended to provide a brief introduction to each herb. For additional information on uses, including medicinal contraindications, see the References list. The Herb Society of America can not advise, recommend, or prescribe herbs for medicinal use. Please consult a health care provider before pursuing any herbal treatments. Inclusion of vendor information does not indicate an endorsement by The Herb Society of America, and HSA can not guarantee availability of seeds/plants.