

Cut-leaved Toothwort (*Dentaria laciniata*)



Cut-leaved Toothwort Flowers

Cut-leaved Toothwort plants can get to be over a foot tall. The plants grow well in rich, moist woods. They have palmately divided leaves with deeply toothed or jagged leaflets. The Latin name, *laciniata*, refers to a torn appearance.



Cut-leaved Toothwort Leaves

The three-quarter inch flowers have four white to pale pink petals and grow in clusters. The flower petals form a cross, as do the flowers of other members of the Mustard or *Cruciferae* family. They bloom from March to May and afterwards go dormant.



Cut-leaved Toothwort Buds



Cut-leaved Toothwort Flowers

The scientific name, *Dentaria*, comes from the Latin word *dens* for tooth. Individual tubers form on slender roots and look something like light-colored teeth. The edible, peppery root was used to season other foods.

Seeds form in narrow pods.



Cut-leaved Toothwort Roots