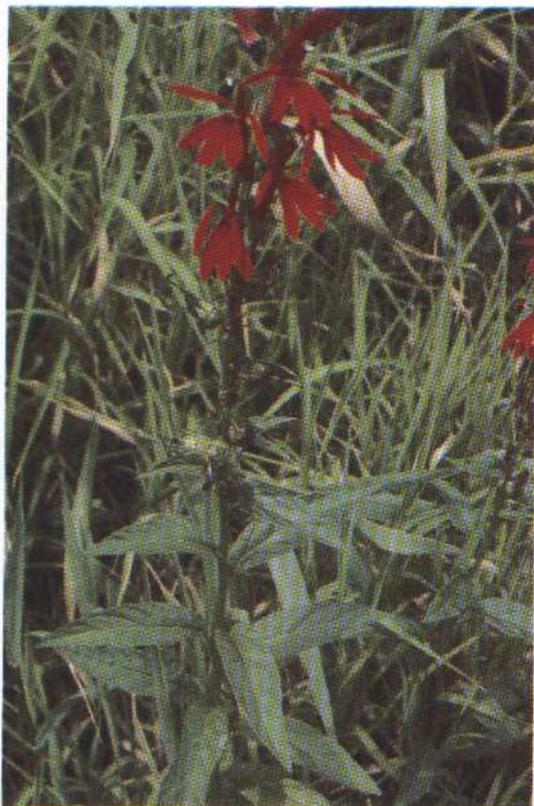




CARDINAL FLOWER  
*Lobelia Cardinalis*

Located along damp shores and streambanks, and in wet meadows and swamps throughout the Division. Also known as Red Lobelia, Red Betty, Slink Weed and Hog's Physic.

A tall (0.4 to 1.8 m high), unbranched perennial, spreading by short basal off sets. The numerous thin, alternate leaves are lance-shaped to oblong, narrowed at both ends, with toothed edges; 5 to 15 cm long, 0.6 to 3.8 cm wide; the lower leaves with stalks, the upper stalkless. The flowers arise from a spike (10 to 50 cm long) at the top of the stem; 3 to 4.5 cm long, with 2 lips (the upper divided into two lobes, the lower 3 lobes), bright scarlet to deep red (rarely white); blooming from July to September. The fruit is a many-seeded pod.



Notes: